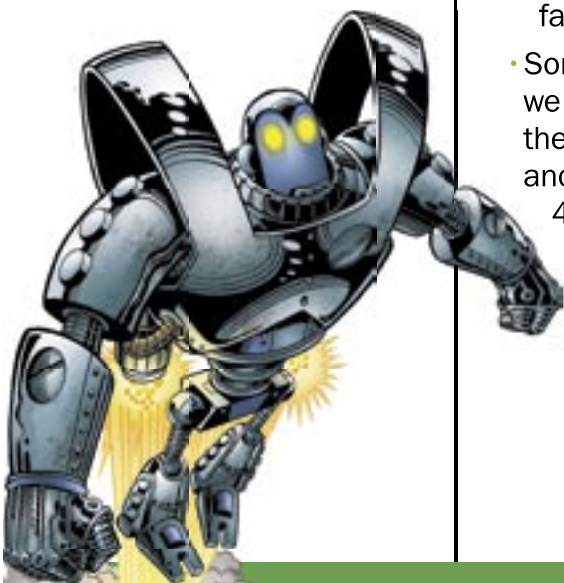


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Hope

Keeping Hope Alive

Hope is the expectation that something is going to happen. The things we can hope for are endless. Kids may hope for a certain bike for Christmas, or hope they get chosen for the pickup baseball game after school.

Unfortunately, for as many hopes fulfilled in the world, there's an equal amount of disappointment. So how do you successfully help kids balance hope with reality?

- Teach your kids Scripture that reminds them their hope in God isn't unfounded. Choose verses like Psalm 25:5; 31:24; 33:20.
- Help kids keep their hopes centered in Christ. What are they hoping for? Is it a need or a want? Is the hope for something personal or for someone else? Help kids "step back" and look at what they hope for.
- Encourage kids that God is at the center of all things. He hears our prayers, and His answers will come. They don't always come when we expect them, but they do come.
- Trust in God. He will surprise you. This is an opportunity for you as an adult to watch childlike faith in action. It almost becomes second nature for adults to expect the wrong thing to happen. But God is faithful.
- Sometimes disappointment happens. Hopes aren't always fulfilled when we want them fulfilled. This, too, is an opportunity for kids to grow in their faith. Help kids understand God is still worth putting our hope and faith in. Pray with them. Encourage them with Scriptures like Isaiah 40:31; Jeremiah 29:11; Lamentations 3:21, 22.



Holsom Comics Discussion Questions

After kids have read [Welcome to Holsom, Issue 18](#), begin a discussion about hope by asking these questions:

1. Jordan hopes to reach out to Tabitha and help her come to know Jesus as Lord and Savior. Do you think her hope is unfounded? (*No.*) Do you think Tabitha will come to accept salvation from Jesus? Why or why not? (*Answers will vary.*)
2. How would you help Tabitha come to know Jesus? (*Answers will vary.*)
3. What does JD hope to find in the cavern? What do you think he hopes to gain from his searching? Do you think JD will be successful in his search? (*Answers will vary.*)



Activity

Digging for Hope

Help kids find Scripture they can use when they need a boost in their hope and faith. Lead them in Scripture drills and teach them to use their concordance. Keep track and write down the Scripture references as your kids find them and read them out loud. A few words to search for include hope, faith(ful), and compassion.

