1. Have each person describe a 'happy memory' they have from when they were growing up, and why it is a happy one.

-Would it be harder or easier to describe a 'difficult or sad' memory than to describe a 'happy one'? Which is easier to remember?

-What causes or effects if an event is happy or sad?

-Why do you think it's important for us to remember 'happy memories'?

2. How would you explain the difference between happiness and joy? -is there a difference?

-what determines if someone is happy or joyful?

Read 1 Peter 1:1-7

3. How would you describe what 'mercy' is to someone who had never heard of it before?

-Why is mercy so difficult for many people to accept?

Read... Hebrews 4:16 Ephesians 2:4-5 Psalm 40:11 Romans 12:1

4. Why is it vital that we do accept His mercy?

-How does this cause us to be filled with inexpressible joy?

5. Peter describes an inheritance we receive when we put our faith in Jesus. What are some of the differences between an earthly inheritance and a heavenly one?

-What would you say is included in our heavenly inheritance? What is Peter referring to in verse 4?

6. How does knowing our heavenly inheritance is guaranteed, that it won't ever be taken away help us to live with joy and with hope?

7. Some people say that knowing they have an inheritance coming here on earth, causes them to become complacent and lose their drive and ambition. They know it's coming, they can just wait.

-Is there a danger that Christians could become complacent knowing their inheritance is guaranteed and is imperishable, undefiled and unfading?

-How do we keep from becoming complacent as followers of Jesus?

8. How does it make you feel, knowing that we may, and probably will, face tests and trials in this world, and that God is allowing them in order to purify your faith?

-Does knowing this help you endure it better?

Read James 1:2-4 Romans 5:3-5

-Does knowing this actually allow you to grow in your joy & your hope?

Read 1 Peter 1:8-9

9. What does it mean to live by faith and not by sight?

Read John 20:24-29

- 10. Why does Jesus seem to say those who have not seen Him are 'blessed'?
- 11. According to Peter, what is the goal of our faith?
- 12. Peter in the end, describes the Angels as almost being jealous that they can't experience the joy of salvation like we do

-What would they be jealous of? What are they missing out on?

-Does it make you appreciate more the trials and challenges we face, and our need for being saved through Jesus?