

#2 CULTIVATE HOPE

To cultivate hope impacts more than people and places... it changes how we look at the world around us. It compels us to care for the space we find ourselves in because we are reminded that someone will be after us.

It gives significance to the fact that what I have received I long for someone after me to taste and see too. The decoration on that wall, the pillow on the couch, the warm sheets and the beautiful comforter - each reminds me that I'm worth it. It doesn't matter how many times I've lost things as I ripped off the eviction notice, traveled the streets looking for a place to stay or simply worked paycheck to paycheck just to get by. Here, in this place, I matter, the people I live in close proximity to matter, the things we have been gifted inside this precious space matter and I want them to matter long after I leave.

You see what needed to be disrupted was my outlook on life. My ties to people, places and things telling me about myself, but only part - the part that was worn out, crippled with anxiety and desperate. The things that never could get enough of me, but with each interaction took a part of me that they didn't ask to have. The lies, manipulation and rejection feeding the heart and silencing my soul.

When I walked into Hope Street those lies were disrupted. I was reminded of Hope - and it didn't come through relationships, money or things - but a relationship with the One who knows my name. The One who knew my name before my mother spoke it over me. The one who knows me, the real me, and still chooses to love me perfectly. He disrupted the lie that I have to steal to get by, that I have to be angry to protect myself, that I need to get back at those who have hurt me, that I'm too washed up to do anything worthwhile.

None of this information was given to me in a booklet to absorb, through a lecture with a list of demands or through an ultimatum that affected my place in the community.

It was given through presence. It was in the still moments where I realized I was actually safe inside my room. It was in walking through conflict with grace instead of my usual kicking and screaming. It was by pushing boundaries and realizing someone was right there with me presenting choices, but ultimately respecting the choice I made. It said "no" when I was wrong, but held out a tissue as I cried. It asks the hard questions, loves beyond reason, extends grace and speaks truth. The disruption is grace. It's the desire for change - isn't that what Hope offers?

We don't want to be the same, we want to be our true selves - our image bearing, kingdom bringing, sons and daughters of the one true King.

I have found Hope. And the most comforting thing about Him - He doesn't let me stay the same. He cultivates that in me which needs to be prepared for life to grow. As my life grows it produces freedom, joy and peace. Hope Street has given me a reason to believe in Hope again and to embrace the cultivation that must take place for me to thrive. (I've done my part to try to survive).

**THE GIFT - IT'S MY TURN TO INVITE
THE NEXT PERSON. WILL YOU ALLOW
HOPE TO BE CULTIVATED?**

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

Our hope with producing this mini documentary series is that conversations would be sparked; but also that people would feel confident as they take next steps to engage. That people would have an opportunity to hear about our small part in seeing our city flourish and be encouraged to explore what their part is. The following are questions and practical next steps as you discover what it means to cultivate a nurturing community; a Greenhouse for People in your own context.



What stood out to you from the video?



What does it look like to cultivate hope in your life?

NEXT STEP(S)



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YouTube: Hope Street Ministry



JOIN US FOR A DINNER TOUR

Join us at Hope Street for a meal, tour of Hope Street and a viewing of Known. Upcoming tours can be found at www.HopeStreetMinistry.org/events



COME TO WEDNESDAY MORNING PRAYER

Every Wednesday at 9am we meet for prayer at Hope Street. Come on down or share with us how we can be praying for you!



SIGN UP FOR SERVE SATURDAY

On the second Saturday of every month we have a group of people come in to clean, organize or do light repairs at Hope Street. Learn more on our website: www.HopeStreetMinistry.org/volunteer

