



# Words of Hope

Irises symbolize hope, faith, wisdom, and courage.

HopeKeepers®Indy - Christian Support for Chronic Illness

## Assistive Aids to Make Your Life Easier



Self-Opening Scissors  
[therapyshoppe.com](http://therapyshoppe.com)



M-Tip Crutch Tip  
[amazon.com](http://amazon.com)



Ergo-Soft Pen  
[amazon.com](http://amazon.com)



Swivel Tub  
Transfer Seat  
[amazon.com](http://amazon.com)



Pop-up  
Bedside Table  
[digitaltrends.com](http://digitaltrends.com)



Non-slip Tape  
[kofflersales.com](http://kofflersales.com)

February 2017  
Volume 2, Issue 2

### UPCOMING MEETINGS

FEBRUARY 11

MARCH 11

APRIL 8

2-4 PM

Email us  
for meeting location  
in Brownsburg, IN

In case alternate location is needed, or weather cancels a meeting, members will be notified prior to the meeting.

## Discussion Theme for February HKI Meeting

### Why Does God Let Bad Things Happen?

"The question is as old as humanity. The book of Job, considered by many the oldest of the Scriptures, is centered on it."

"Sometimes God does not give the answer because He knows He is all the answer we really need. In finding Him, we find enough."

### Bribing God

"God's Book, the Bible, is full of people just like us, or maybe worse; people who whined or cried or asked why, or had grown-up temper tantrums to a God who just wasn't doing things the way they thought He should."

"God isn't threatened by our humanity. He knows all about it, more than we do really. He knows how we struggle and why, and our transparent expression of our feelings will get the toxins out so there is room for His truth."

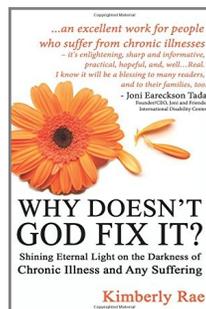
(Quotes from Introduction and Chapter 1)

The author of our Bible study book, Kimberly Rae, lives with Addison's disease, hypoglycemia, asthma, and a cyst on her brain. She knows what it's like to feel sick and tired of feeling sick and tired. Her words will both inspire us deeply and challenge us to greater faith.

Join us in February as we explore these perplexing thoughts. HopeKeepers®Indy is a place where we can discuss our questions with understanding, honesty, and confidentiality.

If you already have your book, please read pages 11-19, and consider the questions on pages 23-25. If you need a book, email us to order a copy.

As always, you are welcome and encouraged to come whether or not you have read the chapters. We need your insights and experience. We love you!



*HopeKeepers®Indy is a Christian ministry for adults who live with chronic illness or physical condition - either personally or as a caregiver.*

### Contact Information

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Pinterest:  
[pinterest.com/hopekeepersindy](https://pinterest.com/hopekeepersindy)

## Praying and Personalizing the Scriptures

When you live with chronic illness, there may be times of suffering so deep that we do not have the energy to pray. We may want to isolate ourselves from people, and we may also isolate ourselves from God. When we can't find words of our own to pray, we can find comfort in praying and personalizing Scripture. We can cry out to God in His own inspired words, inserting names and pronouns that make our petition intimate and individual.

Tyler Ellis, a college minister at the University of Tennessee, writes about prayer at [www.btylerellis.com](http://www.btylerellis.com).

### God Wants To Be on A First-Name Basis With YOU

- God doesn't just love the world. He loves YOU.
- God doesn't just listen to everyone's prayers. He listens to YOU.
- He makes promises to YOU.
- He wants YOU to forgive your enemies.
- Jesus is sending YOU out to share his message.
- Jesus is preparing a place for YOU.

### The Benefits of Reading Yourself Into God's Word

- It is meaningful... as you read it like a song, making the words your own.
- It is insightful... as things jump out at you like you're reading it for the first time.
- It is transformational... as the reality of God's love sinks in deeper.
- It is empowering... as the teachings of God tap your shoulder with a call to action.

*Praying the*  
SCRIPTURES  
hopekeepers.com

## Read Yourself Into God's Word

To practice personalizing Scripture, try inserting your own name or pronoun where you see bold type:

"I (**insert your name**) keep asking that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the glorious Father, may give **you** the Spirit of wisdom and revelation, so that **you** may know him better. I pray that the eyes of **your** heart may be enlightened in order that **you** may know the hope to which He has called **you**, the riches of His glorious inheritance in His holy people, and His incomparably great power for **us** who believe." Ephesians 1:17-19

## HopeKeepers®Indy Opens a New Chapter in Fishers, Indiana!

In January of 2016, we considered our ministry goals for the coming year. One of our written goals was to establish a HopeKeepers®Indy outreach chapter in a senior community near Indianapolis. GOD IS GOOD!

On January 28, 2017, our informational meeting at The Reserve at Hamilton Trace in Fishers, IN, was well-attended. We are excited to begin hosting meetings for Reserve residents who suffer with chronic illness and physical conditions.

We are also pleased that the group will be co-led by Marie Miller (HopeKeepers®Indy Facilitator in Brownsburg, IN) and Linda Teeple (HopeKeepers® Facilitator in Anderson, IN). This collaboration will be a blessing to both of us!

## Notes From Marie

### "When God Wants to Get Your Attention"



*Praise God for  
Answered Prayer!*

Have you ever noticed that when God wants to teach you something, He finds multiple ways to get your attention? You may read a Scripture passage and be touched by particular words or phrases. Then you may listen to a sermon that reinforces those words. Then you may hear a song, or read a sign, or have a conversation that echoes the same thoughts.

This has been my experience in hearing God's direction in my life. It happened two years ago, when God first impressed on my heart that He wanted me to lead a chronic illness group. I had previously led twenty ladies' Bible studies in my home. Before we finished a Bible study, I always knew what the next study topic would be. But in January of 2015, I could not settle on a new topic. I heard about a chronic illness group in a local church. Then I came across Rest Ministries on the internet. I heard sermons about suffering. Verses were called to

to my mind. When I realized that God was leading me in a new direction, it was a joy to say "Yes" to His call.

The same thing happened about two months ago. I visited a local senior community, and in the course of conversation, I mentioned HopeKeepers®Indy to a staff member. She immediately invited us to start a group at their facility.

I was excited and willing, but through a series of events, God led us to a senior community about forty-five minutes northeast, in the town of Fishers. Following the pathway God led before us, we have a beautiful venue, a ready-made group of seniors to serve, and enthusiastic cooperation by the staff at the Reserve at Hamilton Trace. Also - to my great joy - I will serve with my dear friend Linda Teeple, who brings experience, compassion, and talent along with a heart to serve those who are suffering with chronic illness.

I'm so grateful to God who knows how to get our attention!