



Inspire

Hope for the World

Hopeful Light in the Darkness

One of my favorite movies as a kid was Disney's *Pete's Dragon* (1977) about a young runaway boy who has an "imaginary" dragon. He is welcomed into the home of Nora and her father who are the lighthouse keepers. In the movie, Nora is holding out hope that her beloved Paul would one day return to her, even though he has been missing for a year. As she longs for Paul, she sings a beautiful ballad. She sings about being a candle on the water, lighting the way for Paul to come home. Part of the song says:

*...A cold and friendless tide has found you,
Don't let the stormy darkness pull you down.
I'll paint a ray of hope around you,
Circling in the air, Lighted by a prayer....*

Towards the end of the movie, a storm is brewing, a ship is approaching the shore, and the lighthouse light is not shining. The wick is wet and won't light. It appears hopeless, but in true Disney fashion, Elliot the dragon comes to the rescue, lights the light with his fiery breath, the ship avoids the reef just in time, and of course, there's the perfect Disney happy ending. The light brought hope!

Lighthouses have traditionally been viewed as symbols of hope and security. As beacons of light, they provide guidance for safe passage to sailors and protect not only their lives but the land nearby. The shining light warns ships of unseen dangers, such as rocks and reefs, and guides vessels safely on their way. The light is a beacon of hope for safe passage.

We are surrounded by the darkness of sin in this world, and God has provided light to guide us around the dangers and pitfalls that await us. Psalm 119:105 says, ***Your word is a lamp for my feet and a light on my path.*** Later in verse 114, it says, ***You are my refuge and my shield; I have put my hope in your word.***

God doesn't want us to feel hopeless, like we were wandering around in the darkness. He provides us with His Word, to encourage and uplift us. We simply need to turn to God's Word for refuge and safety, and His Word will light the way. By reading, living and obeying God's Word, we can be assured that He will light our path, and guide us in the right direction.

INSPIRATIONAL IDEAS from the Territory

Centralia, WA experienced a flooding event in their community. The ladies couldn't meet for regular meetings, so they got to work cooking and serving food, cleaning and helping at the Red Cross Shelter.

Fort Collins, CO learned to make homemade tortillas and the ladies have enjoyed making them for their families.

Gresham, OR has begun to engage with the women at DHQ and is doing a Bible study on the women of the Bible.

Hemet, CA started a monthly breakfast fellowship. They gather at the corps for breakfast and then ladies take turns teaching a class or leading an activity.

Henderson United, NV made up 100 gift bags consisting of snacks, coffee, masks, candy and cards and delivered them at the VA Clinic.

Keokuk, IA had a program on Ancient Egyptian women after the Corps Officer came back from a vacation in Egypt.

Kona, HI made goodie bags and packed lunches for the teens who were travelling to the Divisional Youth Retreat. These proved very helpful when they experienced a 2-hour delay at the airport.

Oceanside, CA had a "Give Me S'More Fellowship" which included hot dogs and s'mores.

Roseville, CA started a new WM program—Zumba once a week!

San Diego Centre City, CA learned about Kenya. They wrote encouraging cards and sent them to The Salvation Army headquarters in Kenya.

Commissioner Colleen Riley—Territorial President of Women's Ministries

Colonel Donna Igleheart—Territorial Secretary for Women's Ministries

Major Beth Desplancke—Territorial Women's Ministries Program Secretary

Be sure to check out our website for more resources: <https://usw-womensministries.org/>

Lighthouse Craft Ideas

Not many of us are blessed enough to live nearby a lighthouse (if you are, that would be a great Women's Ministries outing), but enjoy these craft ideas to help you remember the hope that comes from the light in the darkness.

Clay Pot Lighthouse

https://www.ehow.com/how_4882573_make-clay-pot-lighthouse.html?epik=dj0yJnU9X01RT201UUduN1k4b0VQdWxnRVixT1ZTTFpNczdwUkEmcD0wJm49T2dMVIZPUkdBN1tU2loUmJ3am9sQSZ0PUFBQUFBR0tqaVh3

Foam Lighthouse Craft

<https://www.craftsbycourtney.com/how-to-crafts/lighthouse-craft-summer-foam-lighthouse/>

How to Draw a Lighthouse

This includes a PDF that you can download and print.

<https://artprojectsforkids.org/draw-a-lighthouse/>

Monthly Bible Trivia Questions—Light

Though we take light for granted, it is very important to us. What does the Bible have to say about light?

1. On what day of creation did God create light (Genesis 1:3-5)?
2. Who was led by a pillar of light (Exodus 14:20)?
3. Why did David say he would not fear according to Psalm 27:1?
4. In the Parable of the Ten Virgins, what differentiated those who were wise versus those who were considered foolish (Matthew 25:1-13)?
5. According to John 3:20, who hates light and why will they not come into the light?
6. When Jesus declared to be the light of the world, what did He promise to those who follow Him (John 8:12)?
7. Peter was in prison, awaiting a trial before Herod. He was asleep, a light shone in the room, and who appeared (Acts 12:7)?
8. When Paul and Silas were singing praises in jail. Who called for a light after the earthquake (Acts 16:29)?
9. Who is said to masquerade as an angel of light (2 Corinthians 11:14)?
10. Why will there be no need for the light of a lamp or the light of the sun when Eden is restored (Revelation 22:5)?

