



## **the road. the rocks. & the weeds.**

(john mark mcmillan)

Come down from the stars  
Show your human scars  
Tell me what it's like to believe  
Through my Christ haunted thoughts  
That the losses you bought  
Are the nights that you peopled with your dreams

**Well, I've got no answers  
For heartbreaks or cancers  
But a Savior who suffers them with me  
Singing goodbye, Olympus  
The heart of my Maker  
Is spread out on the road, the rocks, and the weeds**

Come down from your mountain  
Your high-rise apartment  
And tell me of the God you know who bleeds  
And what to tell my daughter  
When she asks so many questions  
And I fail to fill her heaviness with peace

**When I've got no answers  
For hurt knees or cancers  
But a Savior who suffers them with me  
Singing goodbye, Olympus  
The heart of my Maker  
Is spread out on the road, the rocks, and the weeds**

And Aphrodite would not weep  
Nor Zeus would suffer for the weak  
But have you come to stand inside my pain?  
And all the things I've begged you for  
Eternity and evermore  
Are hidden with me here beneath the rain

So shall I plant sequoias  
And revel in the soil  
Of a crop I know I'll never live to reap?  
Then sow my body to my Maker  
And my heart unto my savior  
And spread me on the road, the rocks, and the weeds  
Spread me on the road



## continue the conversation questions:

**What does hope mean to you?**

**Would you describe your current view of the state of the world as more hopeful or hopeless?**

**How would you describe where you find yourself in this season of life? Would 'hope' be part of that description?**

**When difficult situations or season come along how easy or hard is it to find hope for you?**



## a place to start:

"The Lord is my shepherd; I have all that I need. He lets me rest in green meadows; He leads me beside peaceful streams. He renews my strength. He guides me along right paths, bringing honor to His name.. Even when I walk through the darkest valley, I will not be afraid, for you are close beside me. Your rod and your staff protect and comfort me. You prepare a feast for me in the presence of my enemies. You honor me by anointing my head with oil. My cup overflows with blessings. Surely your goodness and unfailing love will pursue me all the days of my life, and I will live in the house of the Lord forever."

[ **psalm 23** ]

"For we know that all creation has been groaning as in the pains of childbirth right up to the present time. And we believers also groan, even though we have the Holy Spirit within us as a foretaste of future glory, for we long for our bodies to be released from sin and suffering. We, too, wait with eager hope for the day when God will give us our full rights as his adopted children, including the new bodies he has promised us. We were given this hope when we were saved. (If we already have something, we don't need to hope for it. But if we look forward to something we don't yet have, we must wait patiently and confidently.)"

[ **romans 8:22-25** ]

"That is why we never give up. Though our bodies are dying, our spirits are being renewed every day. For our present troubles are small and won't last very long. Yet they produce for us a glory that vastly outweighs them and will last forever! So we don't look at the troubles we can see now; rather, we fix our gaze on things that cannot be seen. For the things we see now will soon be gone, but the things we cannot see will last forever."

[ **2 corinthians 4:16-18** ]

"Don't worry about anything; instead, pray about everything. Tell God what you need, and thank Him for all he has done. Then you will experience God's peace, which exceeds anything we can understand. His peace will guard your hearts and minds as you live in Christ Jesus. And now, dear brothers and sisters, one final thing. Fix your thoughts on what is true, and honorable, and right, and pure, and lovely, and admirable. Think about things that are excellent and worthy of praise.

[ **philippians 4:6-8** ]