

Use "The Scene" to introduce "Hope" the Young Teen Sunday school lesson for February 25, 2018. The lesson is found on page 81 of *Young Teen Teacher* by Standard Publishing.

HYPERLINK "<http://www.encounterface2face.com/category/the-scene/>"



The story still dominating the news this week is the school shooting in Parkland, Florida, the response from the survivors, and the effect this may have on the country's gun regulations.

As you listen to the teens speaking out about their experience and talking about the grief they now have after losing their friends, one of the feelings that often comes up again and again is disappointment. These young people and their parents and their whole community feel let down. They believed their school would be secure. They believed their systems set in place would protect them. They believed police officers would keep them safe. They believed that if someone raised a red flag about a person's mental state, then that flag would be respected and followed up on. They believed that a close community would be a prevention against threats. Some believed that current laws would be enough.

But they were let down. And for some their response has been sorrow. For some it has been anger. And for some it has been action. And they are all calling for some kind of change. What will that change be? And will it work?

*As students arrive, give each of them a copy of the article. Then discuss in this way:*

**Have you ever felt let down by people who were supposed to protect you? What happened?**

**Think about what things, places, or people make you feel safe. Why do you have confidence in those?**

**How have you been affected by the story of the latest school shooting? Has it changed your thoughts about any of the systems that are currently in place in your area to keep kids safe at school? Why or why not?**

**One feeling that has also been apparent in the speeches of the students from Parkland, Florida, is that they do have hope. They have real hope that they can create change and make their community a better place. There are many things people place their hope in that aren't always reliable. Today we'll discover three truths about God that help us be able to live with confidence.**