



BEULAH FIRST BAPTIST

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Focus: The Advent Playlist – The Unsaid Lessons

A Study of Hope • Peace • Joy • Making Room • Love

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Introduction: Advent is not a countdown to Christmas, it is a season of spiritual formation. It invites us to slow down, to wait with expectation, and to pay attention to the ways God arrives in places we do not always notice. The greatest hits of Advent are those that should shape our lives each and every day: **Hope, Peace, Joy, Making Room (Bonus Track), and Love.**

1. “O COME, O COME, EMMANUEL” – HOPE AND THE DISCIPLESHIP OF DELAY

The Tension We Didn’t Cover: Hope requires God to withhold outcomes. If you can see it, it is not hope. Hope is spiritual endurance.

Romans 8:24–25 — Hope only functions in the unseen.

Questions We Didn’t Ask:

- What do I do when God refuses to satisfy my need for answers?
- Why does waiting feel like punishment when Scripture calls it salvation?
- Can God trust me with promises that might be fulfilled after I die?

Maturity Goal: Hope shapes endurance, not comfort.

2. “SILENT NIGHT” – PEACE AND THE COST OF RECONCILIATION

The Tension We Didn’t Cover: Peace is not emotional quiet. Peace is relational repair bought through blood.

Colossians 1:19–20 — Peace was made **by His blood.**

Questions We Didn’t Ask:

Where am I choosing avoidance instead of reconciliation?
Who am I unwilling to forgive but still begging God for peace?
What internal war am I trying to manage instead of surrender?

Maturity Goal: Peace demands confession, correction, and surrender.

3. “JOY TO THE WORLD” – JOY AS RESISTANCE WHILE BLEEDING

The Tension We Didn’t Cover: Joy does not erase sorrow. Joy withstands it. Joy is commanded while grief is active.

Nehemiah 8:10 — The joy of the Lord is strength, not celebration.

Questions We Didn’t Ask:

Do I secretly believe joy dishonors my pain?

Can I allow God to strengthen me before God restores me?

Will I testify of joy while my heart is still healing?

Maturity Goal: Joy is rebellion against despair, not denial of reality.

4. “AWAY IN A MANGER” – MAKING ROOM IN A CROWDED HEART

The Tension We Didn’t Cover: Jesus was not rejected! He was crowded out. The spiritual danger is not hostility. The danger is preoccupation.

Luke 2:7 — There was **no room** for Him.

Revelation 3:20 — Jesus knocks. He does not force entry.

Questions We Didn’t Ask:

Is my spiritual life overcrowded?

Have I confused religious proximity with surrender?

What must be removed for Christ to dwell freely in me?

Maturity Goal: Availability becomes worship.

5. “HARK! THE HERALD ANGELS SING” – LOVE AS INCARNATION (PREVIEW)

The Tension We Will Cover: Love is not feeling. Love is movement. God comes close and pays the cost Himself.

John 1:14 — The Word became **flesh**.

1 John 4:9–10 — Love **sent** a sacrifice.

Questions to ask yourself:

- Who am I refusing to move toward?
- What would love cost if I embodied it rather than spoke it?
- Where is God calling me to show up in person, not in theory?

Maturity Goal: Love = proximity + sacrifice.