

## Despair to Hope

Isaiah 42:1-9

- Our great \_\_\_\_\_.
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
- God's great \_\_\_\_\_.
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
- God's great \_\_\_\_\_.
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
- God's great \_\_\_\_\_.

## QUESTIONS FOR FURTHER DISCUSSION:

1. Read Isaiah 42:1-9.
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
2. Review the ways this passage describes us. (A bruised reed; a smoldering wick; blind; held captive; in darkness.) Do any of these describe you right now? Explain.
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
3. Are there any areas in your life right now where you feel despair?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
4. On Sunday, Chris talked about God's power and God's gentleness. Think of the story of Christ's birth. How do you see each of these attributes of God displayed? How can these attributes be a comfort to you right now?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
5. Advent is a season of waiting - remembering the centuries that God's people waited before Christ was born, and patiently enduring life's trials as we look ahead to His return. Spend a few minutes this week in silence. Read the story of Mary in Luke 1:26-38 and 46-56, giving special attention to God's power, God's gentleness, and God's plan in sending Jesus to us.