

Paul's Conversion

Acts 9:1-31

Introduction:

Advent is a translation of the Greek word Parousia which means "coming". This season is all about the expectant waiting of the coming messiah, King Jesus. We use this time to reflect on where we have come from and where the Lord will take us, but the advent story didn't start in Matthew or Luke. It began in Genesis 1. So in the business of the holiday season we have to remember to make the story our story.

Scripture for Study:

Genesis 3:14-15

Genesis 12:1-3

2 Samuel 7:11-16

Isaiah 11:1-12

Matthew 1:20-21

Message Outline:

Sin fractured the world, but God made a promise to put things back to right. Genesis 3:14-15

This would happen through a set apart nation. Genesis 12:1-3

Despite humanity's failures God never gives up on them or the good world he created.

He will one day provide an eternal king who establishes an eternal kingdom ruled by peace and justice. 2 Samuel 7:11-16, Isaiah 11:1-12

With this new king comes he brings peace and through Jesus death and resurrection he fulfills the promises made thousands of years earlier.

Small Group Questions:

1. What advent traditions have you and your family done in the past?
2. How does knowing the story of the Bible change your view of advent?
3. Advent is about waiting on the king to show up. What's an area of your life where you have been waiting on the Lord?

4. Pastor Chris said that Christmas holds significance because of Easter. What did he mean when he said that? How should Easter affect our view of Jesus birth?
5. What's one way you are focusing your attention on Jesus and His story this season?

Conclusion:

May we never forget that God is a faithful God who always shows up at exactly the right time. He has not given up on the world or you. Use this season to keep your focus steered in the direction of king Jesus.