



Bible study for the week starting December 20, 2020
Hope is Born: What to Expect When You're Expecting

SHARE

1. If you or someone close to you has ever gone through 9 months of waiting, followed by life with a newborn, share what was most “unexpected” about that experience (something for which no book could have ever prepared you).

READ/STUDY/DISCUSS

2. Read 2 Samuel 7:1-11, 16. The promise is an heir of David who would reign on his throne forever. Last week, Pastor D talked about earthly monarchies and democracies versus heaven's monarchy. What are the characteristics of a kingdom where Jesus is King?
3. Read Roman 16:25-27. This is the “assigned” lectionary epistle for the 4th Sunday in Advent. What does this “doxology” blessing at the end of Paul's letter to the Christians in Rome have to do with Christmas?
4. Read Luke 1:39-45. Mary meets Elizabeth, and both women are experiencing miracle pregnancies. What would the reaction and implications of pregnancy for Elizabeth have been like versus the reaction and implications of pregnancy for Mary?
5. Read Luke 1:46-56. Some have called Mary's song, the Magnificat (a word that means “magnify”) one of the first Christmas carols. Spend some time looking at the message spoken (or sung?) so eloquently by Mary.

PRAY FOR AND WITH ONE ANOTHER!

Christmas is a story about heaven coming down to earth. Pray for the ways you would like heaven to meet earth in your current situations, worries, and context.



Hope is Born: What to Expect When You're Expecting

Luke 1:39-56

December 20, 2020 – Pastor Eric Van Scharrel

Both Mary and Elizabeth were [EXPECTING](#).

“Mary, did you know?” [YES!](#)

Mary's pregnancy was to be full of [COMPLICATIONS](#).

God's promises are [REAL](#), God can be [TRUSTED](#), and you will never face your struggles [ALONE](#).

God uses His angels and His people for the same purposes: [CONNECTION](#) and [ENCOURAGEMENT](#).

You may be [HOME](#) alone – but you are [NOT](#) alone.

[HEAVEN](#) comes down and meets [EARTH](#):

- Angels
- Most High God
- Holy Spirit
- Jesus (God in flesh)

God [LIVES](#) in you, too.