



Bible study for the week starting November 30, 2023

SHARE

What are your most treasured Advent/Christmas traditions? What is it about them that makes them meaningful?

READ/STUDY/DISCUSS

1. Read **Isaiah 64:1-9**. What themes of hope do you hear in these verses? How are they accented by the need these verses express?
2. Isaiah is a long book of the Bible, but even so, it contains SO many prophecies about the coming Messiah, from the Virgin birth (Isaiah 7, 9) to His suffering (Isaiah 42, 49, 50, 52, 53). Amazingly, these were written around 700 years before the birth of Jesus! In the Old Testament, they didn't know the name "Jesus" yet, but they trusted God's promises. How would you describe *your* hope?
3. Read **1 Corinthians 1:3-9**. What promise do you hear in these verses for those who wait? For what are we waiting?
4. Read **Mark 13:24-37**. The instructions are simple: "Stay awake!" Are you? What are the ways in which you get a little groggy when it comes to His coming? What are the ways you're alert?
5. Advent is all about preparation for the coming of Jesus. What does being prepared look like for you? What do you do while you wait??

PRAY

Pray that God would feed and encourage your soul during this season: in worship, in the Word, in fellowship, in prayer and reflection, in service and generosity, and in joy! Pray for others in this season who need an extra measure of God's presence.



TREE HUNTING

Isaiah 64:1-9 (1 Cor. 1:3-9, Mark 13:24-37)
December 3, 2023 – Pastor Eric Van Scharrel

What are your favorite Advent/Christmas rituals?

Not every tradition is created EQUAL.

The most IMPORTANT thing that happened in the history of the world was also likely to be the HARDEST thing.

God's plan of salvation was NECESSARY, and it happened at just the PERFECT time.

When you get close, you see the IMPERFECTIONS.

Our flaws only affirmed to Jesus the importance of His MISSION to do the WILL of His Father for the SALVATION of the world.

“The PESSIMIST complains about the wind; the OPTIMIST waits for it to change. The REALIST adjusts the sails.”