



November 26, 2023 – Sermon Discussion Questions

ICEBREAKER

1. Do highs and lows from the last week!
2. What was one thing you shared you were thankful for at the Thanksgiving table?

DIG A LITTLE DEEPER

1. Review the message
 - a. Advent means coming.
 - b. With Jesus' coming, the long night is past.
 - c. At the 2nd coming of Jesus, the Long Night will finally be past.
 - d. Hopefully: desire for the future. Hope Fully: confidence in a future event.
 - e. Our living hope in Jesus' resurrection moves us from "hopefully" to "hope fully".
2. Read Matthew 24:36
 - a. Why do you think people are often drawn to speculation about the timing of such events?
 - b. How does the concept of Advent, meaning "coming", resonate with you in relation to Jesus' arrival and eventual second coming?
3. Read 1 Peter 1:3
 - a. Explore the contrast between "hopefully" and hope fully". How does the resurrection of Jesus contribute to the transformation of our hope from mere desire for the future to a confident expectation in a future event?
 - b. How can a confident hope in Jesus' promises bring joy even in the midst of challenges?
4. Read 1 Peter 1:4-5
 - a. Does the thought of an eternal inheritance change the way you pursue earthly possessions, relationships, etc.?
 - b. How does the concept of an eternal inheritance influence your priorities?
5. Read 1 Peter 1:6-7
 - a. How have challenges in your life contributed to the growth and authenticity of your faith?
 - b. If you feel comfortable, share a time when you experienced a challenge that strengthened your faith or refined your character.

CLOSING

1. Reflect on the idea that with Jesus' second coming, the "Long Night" will finally be past. What emotion do you each feel?
2. Pray for each other that you remain open to exploring what this season of Advent means amid the busyness of what society expects.