



Long Expected Jesus: The Advent of Hope

December 3rd, 2023

Small Group Discussion Questions

Getting Started

Take some time to catch up and connect as a group. Pray before discussion.

Expect God to move through your time together!

Pacing Your Group

Move quickly through “observation” leaving enough time for “reflection”, “discussion”, and “surrender.”

Scripture Reading

Re-read the scripture passages as needed when you discuss the questions.

Observation: *What does this scripture passage say?*

During this advent season we will be looking at an Old Testament prophecy concerning the first advent, an example of it's fulfillment in the New Testament birth of Jesus, and in our anticipation of the second advent. Take some time to read from these three passages: Genesis 3:14-15, Luke 1:39-56, 1 Corinthians 15:19-23

1. How does Genesis 3 point to a future hope?
2. What does Mary say about hope in the Luke 1 passage?
3. What is the future hope that Paul is seeing in 1 Corinthians 15?

Reflection and Discussion: *What are some first thoughts flowing from the scriptures?*

How do the scriptures connect to everyday life.

4. The Fall (Genesis 3) points us to the moment when everything fell apart because of sin. Yet gives us the first glimpse of the Gospel. Spend a little bit of time discussing how sin destroys what is good in our lives and how the Gospel gives us hope.
5. Because we were given the prophetic vision of the gospel in Genesis 3, every follower of the LORD from then on knew that there was One coming who would crush the serpent's effect on the world. As you read Mary's song in Luke 1 what stands out to you about how she expected that and in what ways can you take courage from her example?
6. Christmas is the celebration of the first advent. Advent means “arrival”. It was a long time from Adam to Jesus that involved lifetimes of hope filled waiting. As we sit on this side of Jesus' first advent, He has promised us a second advent. And we wait. How is this hope of the second advent intended to shape the way in which we live as we wait?
7. In what ways can our modern commercialized experience of Christmas rob us of hope in this advent season?

Surrender: *Responding to God's voice.*

8. What is one thing God is saying to you through this study and discussion?

**** Take some time to pray for one another in response to what has been discussed today ****

We're here!

We would love to hear about how things are going in your life group!
Reach out any time with questions, ideas, thoughts, or concerns.

Contact the Discipleship Pastor, Chris Kopp, (907) 646-4835, communitylife@changeportalaska.com