



Morning Star Las Cruces 2025 Discussion Questions

December 7, 2025 (Advent 2)

Series: A Jarring Christmas: Resisting Despair with Defiant Expectation

Title: Enduring Peace

Text: Matthew 3:1-12

1. Have you ever prepared for something important? A move, a new job, a big celebration? What did you feel in those times? Excitement? Apprehension? What helped you get ready for the changes that were coming?

2. Advent invites us into a season of anticipation. What practices or rituals in your own life help you slow down and notice God's presence in the midst of the busyness?

3. What stood out to you in the message titled *A Jarring Christmas: Enduring Peace*? Did a story, song or image help you imagine peace in a new way?

4. Read Matthew 3:1-12. What words or images grab your attention in John the Baptist's call to prepare the way?

Mission and Vision of Morning Star: To point people to the grace of God found in Jesus through inspirational worship, radical inclusion and the alleviation of suffering.

5. John speaks of repentance and transformation as preparation for God's coming. Pastor Amy said to repent is to change the way we think (and act). How do you understand repentance in your own spiritual life?

6. An authentic experience of Advent calls us into a posture of peace, which is more than the absence of conflict. How might we practice peace that endures even in the midst of obvious turmoil, unsettling uncertainty or quiet personal struggle?

7. Read Isaiah 40:3-5. How does this prophecy deepen your understanding of John's mission to "prepare the way" and make paths straight for the Lord? What does this mean for your experience of faith today?

8. Read Philippians 4:6-7. Paul speaks of God's peace guarding our hearts and minds. How could we experience this promise of divine peace as a gift rather than as something we must produce ourselves?

9. In a world full of noise, pressure and division, where do you sense God might be inviting you to witness or embody enduring peace this season?

10. How can your group pray for you as you seek to live into Advent's jarring yet hopeful call to prepare, to repent and to carry God's peace into your life and the wider world?

Mission and Vision of Morning Star: To point people to the grace of God found in Jesus through inspirational worship, radical inclusion and the alleviation of suffering.

Mission and Vision of Morning Star: To point people to the grace of God found in Jesus through inspirational worship, radical inclusion and the alleviation of suffering.