



FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH ASHLAND



This guide is an invitation to follow Jesus with greater purpose and hope. It will help you to explore the scriptures and challenge you to live out your faith. Each week we'd love for you to think about how you relate: **Up** (with God), **In** (with church) and **Out** (with neighbors).

Weekly Questions:

- How is God getting my attention? For help, think about these areas:
- How are you living up with God?
- How are you living in community with other followers of Jesus?
- How are you living out on mission with your neighbors?
- What are you going to do about it?

Expecting: Wisdom & Humility

Read Isaiah 9:6

- What do the names given in this passage tell us about the foretold king? How might they have appeared differently to the Israelites who first heard words hundreds of years before Jesus?

Read 1 Corinthians 1:18-31

Paul is writing to the church in Corinth who are enamored with philosophy and wise teachers. Paul calls the cross of Jesus “foolish” and “weak” when judged by the wisdom of the age.

- In what ways was the cross of Jesus foolish in that day? In what ways can it be seen as foolish today?
- What are examples of “weakness” as strength in our world today? How might we be examples of humility in the way we move in society?
- What are examples of boasting about one’s knowledge or power in our world? How might we instead boast about Jesus?

As you consider the advent season and those long ago who were anticipating God to show up in the form of a savior... **what do you expect from God** in our life? **What do you expect from Jesus?** Are you open to the move of God in your life?

If Jesus is the Christ, then he appeared in our world as foolish and weak to conquer sin and shame on our behalf. How might we be foolish and weak for the sake of our neighbors and for the sake of God’s kingdom?