

Discussion Questions

INTRODUCTION

The season of Advent remembers the longing of a difficult time long ago. How does the story of Jesus and the circumstances of His birth give us hope today. That despite our circumstances, we can find love for difficult times.

GETTING STARTED

1. What do you think of when you hear the word “Advent?” What Advent traditions have you observed?
2. Describe a time when your father affirmed you? What impact did it have on you? If you can’t recall a specific affirmation, what do you wish your father would have done?

BIBLE IDEA

3. In Luke 2:25-38, Simeon makes some important declarations about who Jesus was and what Jesus would do. Of all Simeon’s statements, what stands out to you?
4. Luke 2:36-38 describes Anna’s longing for God to redeem Jerusalem and show His love toward Israel. What would change in our lives if we had the faith of Anna?
5. Read 1 John 4:9-12. What does this say about how God loves us? How we should love others?

NEXT STEPS

6. In our day, with tragedy surrounding us, it is easy to wonder if God has forgotten us. What can we do to remind ourselves of God’s love?
7. How can you demonstrate up close, costly, stubborn, love this Christmas season?