

Advent | Hope 12/3/2023

Reflect + Discuss

- What is a favorite Christmas tradition of yours? Do you have any special ways to celebrate Advent?
- Read Romans 15:12-13. What are some examples of things you are prone to put your hope in? Is there something specific you're hoping for in your life right now? How is placing our hope in God different from placing hope in things of the world? How can worldly hope sometimes feel like 'shoes that are too small'?
- Read Luke 2:10-11. Read Isaiah 11:1-9. What do these verses show us about the future? What is Isaiah trying to point us towards? How can these verses encourage us as we live in a broken world?
- Read Revelation 21:3-4. Are there areas of your life where you need strength for today?
 How can we find strength in our daily life through knowing that Jesus is guaranteed to come back for us?
- What are some practical ways we can shift our focus to hope in Christ? Are there people in your life who you can share the hope of Jesus with during this Advent season? How can our group support each other in maintaining hope, especially for those going through a difficult season?

Pray

- Pray that we can experience strength for today and hope for tomorrow as we reflect during this Advent season. Pray that our hope might overflow as we remember Christ's birth, and the assurance of his coming again.

Next Steps

- Consider ways we can encourage others during this Advent season. If you or someone you know is experiencing a season of hopelessness, let them know about the Blue Christmas service.
- Check out the <u>resources page</u> for links to several Bible reading plans and other helpful tools. Explore other opportunities for growth and transformation by checking out <u>courses</u> for the fall.