

Anticipating Advent
Anticipating PEACE
Sermon Notes for Dec. 6, 2020

3 Questions to help us anticipate PEACE in this Advent Season:

How is Anticipating Peace woven into the Advent Story?

What is the Peace that Jesus brings?

How does someone experience this Peace?

Anticipating Advent
Discussion/Study Guide for Anticipating PEACE

We hope this guide will help you go deeper into God's Word and spur you on in obedience to what God is teaching us today. Please feel free to use all or part of it for your group discussion or personal study.

- In what ways are you experiencing stress, anxiety, and turmoil in your life right now? It's important to identify the sources or circumstances that produce these emotions in us. Take a moment and just confess to God your feelings about these things.
- Read Isaiah 9:6-7; Micah 5:1-5a; and Luke 1:79; 2:1-14. Where do you see the theme of peace that is woven into these passages?
- What contrasts can be made between Caesar Augustus and the baby Jesus in Luke 2?
- What are the titles that the angel gives the baby who is wrapped in cloths and lying in a manger? What do these titles mean to you?
- Read John 14:27. What two kinds of peace does Jesus refer to in this verse? What do you think is the difference between the two?
- Read Colossians 1:19-20 and Romans 5:1. What do these verses say about the kind of peace that Jesus brings?
- Read John 16:33 and Philippians 4:6-7. What do these verses say about the kind of peace that Jesus brings?
- Reflecting on these 4 passages, how would you describe the difference between peace with God and the peace of God?

Take some time and thank God for the peace that He offers us in Jesus. If you are struggling with the sense that you are at peace with God, confess any sin that might be hindering you from being at peace with God. Ask for His forgiveness and put your trust in Jesus Christ who has taken your sin upon himself and paid the penalty that you owe. Thank God for this gift.

Read Matthew 11:28-30. If you are struggling with anxiety or turmoil because of something or someone in your life, acknowledge your unrest and ask for God to give you His peace in place of the anxiety and concern. Trust in the promise that Jesus is your peace and that He has overcome anything in the world that could cause you trouble. Rest in Him.