

ADVENT

CHRISTMAS at VICTORY

Leader Conversation Guide – Advent: Hope

Main Idea

This week Pastor Curt started unpacking our series Advent - Christmas at Victory. Advent is the 25 days leading up to Christmas day, much like the 40 days of Lent leading up to Easter. The themes of Advent are Hope, Love, Peace, and Joy. This time of year you will either sing or hear words, 'a thrill of hope the weary world rejoices.' The world seems a little weary right now. We need some hope! Christmas lights and decorations are going up earlier this year, maybe it's because we need the thrill of hope that comes with the Christmas season? There's always been this thought that if _____ happened, then life would be better. We all have something that we put in that blank. There has also always been this thought in the world that if we advance in technology, medicine, and science then life would be better. But with every advancement in technology that has happened, at the same time it has created more problems. With every breakthrough in medicine, we see another depth of corruption and greed. All the science in the world will not bring hope. Hope has a name, Jesus.

Hope is the belief that if _____ occurs, I will be satisfied and safe.

Make it Practical

3 Ways to find Hope.

- **We look back in celebration.** Read John 1:14.
This is a monumental moment when the God of the universe came to this earth. God is always doing so much more than you think He is! We've seen Him move in the past, we know He will move in the future. So what do we do in the meantime? **Celebrate now!**
- **We look forward in Anticipation.** Read John 14:1-3, Rev. 22:12,17,20.
Someone has come and Someone is coming again. Find your comfort in Jesus.
- **We join in the Participation.** Read John 14:16-17, 23.
We don't just look back in celebration or look forward in anticipation, we live and walk in the power of the Holy Spirit – **Now!** His victory is our victory!

Talk About It

- What does the word "Hope" mean to you?
- Read Psalm 20:7. What are some "chariots and horses" in your life that you have placed your trust in instead of the Lord?
- Where are some areas in your life, that hope seems lost? How can we as a Group support and pray for you?

"Some trust in chariots and some in horses, but we trust in the name of the Lord our God."

Psalm 20:7 NIV

Prayer

Father, Thank You for sending Your son to earth to give us hope! For the things of this world will come and go, but only You will remain. Strengthen us as we place our hope in You, and You alone! We give thanks to You Lord, for You are good. We praise the Hope-filled name of Jesus! Amen.

Leader Tip

This world needs Hope, Love, Peace, and Joy. More than ever before! This Christmas season, share the HOPE of Jesus with others. Over the next few weeks we will continue unpacking each of the themes of Advent! Invite someone to our Advent - Christmas at Victory series!