

# ADVENT

HOPE JOY LOVE PEACE

## Leader Conversation Guide – Advent (Part I): HOPE

### Main Idea

This week Pastor Pam kicked off our Advent series for the Christmas season. Advent is the period of preparation for the celebration of the birth of Jesus Christ. We are going to spend the next few weeks unpacking the HOPE, Love, Peace, and Joy that come to mind this time of year. We must not allow the hustle and bustle of the holiday overshadow the true reason for the season. Dietrich Bonhoeffer is quoted as saying, "The celebration of Advent is possible only to those who are troubled in soul, who know themselves to be poor and imperfect, and who look forward to something greater to come."

**May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in him, so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.**

ROMANS 15:13

### Make It Practical: How do we prepare and maintain pathways of HOPE in our lives?

- Establish Trust in God's Process
  - Hebrews 10:35-37 So do not throw away your confidence; it will be richly rewarded. You need to persevere so that when you have done the will of God, you will receive what he has promised. For, "In just a little while, he who is coming will come and will not delay."
- Establish Trust in God's Plan
  - Psalm 10:17 - "LORD, You have heard the desire of the humble: thou will prepare their heart. You will cause Your ear to hear" NKJV
  - Proverbs 3:5-6 - "Trust in the lord with all your heart; do not depend on your own understanding. Seek His will in all you do, and He will show you which path to take."
- Establish Trust in God's Word
  - Romans 15:4 For everything that was written in the past was written to teach us, so that through the endurance taught in the Scriptures and the encouragement they provide we might have hope.

## Talk About It

- What part of this message impacted you the most?
- Which area do you need to better establish trust in? (God's Plan, Process, or Word)
  - What can you do to pursue that trust?
- What does HOPE mean to you?

**Fullness is measured by overflow  
not how much is contained.**

## Prayer

Heavenly Father, thank you for the gift of hope, and that we can look forward to the promise of your Son's return. Holy Spirit, teach us to trust more in the Father's process, plan and Word. Let us not contain our hope, but let it pour out on to others, so your love overflows into their own lives, and they experience the true hope found only in you. In Jesus' Name. Amen.

## Leader Tip

Invite a lost friend or family member to join you, during the Advent series, to attend a Victory Service.