



REDISCOVERING

THE  
**WONDER**

# Our Hope for this Advent

We invite you to use this guide to journey through the weeks leading up to Christmas. As a church, let's prepare our hearts for the richness of what Christmas truly means. We will walk through what it means to have Jesus as our hope, peace, joy, and love. Whether you choose to go through this guide alone or with your family, we pray this guide will lead you closer to the One whom Christmas is all about.

How to use this guide: You can read through this guide however you wish. You may read it at the start of the week or visit it each day of the week.

# Week One

Romans 5:5

"Now hope does not disappoint, because the love of God has been poured out in our hearts by the Holy Spirit who was given to us. "

## **JESUS IS OUR HOPE**

In a world full of sin and darkness, we long for a sense of hope. The only place to find true hope is through the person of Jesus. This week, focus on the salvation Jesus brings. When you turn from your sin and put your faith and trust in Jesus, it changes everything. Jesus came to save us from our sins and promised us eternity with Him. We rejoice today because our hope is in Jesus, and that can never be taken away.

## Meditate on scripture:

☆ *Romans 5:3-5*

☆ *1 Peter 1:3-6*

☆ *Galatians 4:4-7*

## Focus on who Jesus is:

Spend time this week journaling and thanking God for the hope we have through His Son, Jesus.

## Activity for the week:

Rest in the hope we have in Jesus. Spend intentional time with your family or friends. If they don't have the hope of Jesus, ask God for boldness to share with them and that they would be saved!

# Week Two

Isaiah 9:6

"For unto us a Child is born, Unto us a Son is given; And the government will be upon his shoulder. And his name will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace."

## **JESUS IS OUR PEACE**

In our world today, there is sadness, brokenness, evil, and death. Peace seems so far off, but when we have a relationship with Jesus, we know He brings a peace that the world does not give. Jesus came as a baby, lived a sinless life, and died the death we deserved. Before Jesus was born, the world was awaiting the Messiah. The Messiah has come, and He is the Prince of Peace.

## Meditate on scripture:

☆ *2 Corinthians 13:11*

☆ *Philippians 4:6-8*

☆ *2 Thessalonians 3:16*

## Focus on who Jesus is:

Meditate on the peace we find in Christ from the verses above.

## Activity for the week:

Write the characteristics of God on a notecard and place it somewhere you will see each day. This may be your bathroom mirror, your refrigerator, or in your car! When we meditate on who Jesus is, our relationship with Him will be enriched.

# Week Three

Psalm 16:11

"You will show me the path of life; In Your presence is fullness of joy; At Your right hand are pleasures forevermore."

## **JESUS IS OUR JOY**

We often define joy as the feeling of happiness, but this diminishes the joy we have in Jesus to a momentary feeling. We know our joy lies in the presence of Jesus, and that His presence is promised for eternity! No matter what we face in this world, Jesus promises to help us and fill us with a joy that never ends.

## Meditate on scripture:

☆ *Psalm 34:5*

☆ *Psalm 126:3*

☆ *Nehemiah 8:10*

## Focus on who Jesus is:

Thank God for the salvation that He has given us through Jesus, and the joy we can experience in Him. Pray that you may experience unexplainable joy this week.

## Activity for the week:

Start and end your days with worship this week! Listen to your favorite worship songs and share them with a friend or family member to encourage them!

# Week Four

John 3:16

"For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him, should not perish but have everlasting life."

## **JESUS IS LOVE**

John 3:16 is the essence of God's perfect love towards mankind. Although our sin separated us from Him, He did not leave us. God made a way for us to have a relationship with Him through His Son, Jesus. The love Jesus demonstrated on the cross should compel us to display His love and show the world the greatest gift we will ever receive.

## Meditate on scripture:

☆ *Psalm 36:7*

☆ *Psalm 109:26*

☆ *Galatians 4:4-7*

☆ *1 John 4:9-10*

## Focus on who Jesus is:

Reflect on God's love for you and thank Him for all He has done in your life. Use this time to think of specific ways you've seen Him work.

## Activity for the week:

Look for a way to be generous to someone this week! This may be buying someone's coffee, delivering a meal, or having someone over to your home. We can be intentional and love others well through generosity!

# **EXTRA ACTIVITIES**

- ☆ Bake a sweet treat for a neighbor or coworker
- ☆ Think of someone to encourage and write them a letter
- ☆ Bring a cup of coffee to your teacher or boss
- ☆ Buy a Christmas gift for someone in need
- ☆ Take a photo with your family or friends to remember the joy of this Christmas season
- ☆ Invite someone to our Christmas Eve (6:00 PM) and Christmas Day (10:30 AM) services

