

12.02.18 - Advent - Christian

For Advent:

If you're not in a small group, or if your group is taking a break this month, feel free to use these as personal devotional questions, or with your family or housemates.

Leader Prep Section

- Prepare by reading through the questions and scripture passage so that you can select a few questions that are best suited to your group. No need to do all the questions if you don't have time!
- Try to work through at least one question from each of the sections - Hook, Book, Look, Took in order to move from observation to application.
- When possible spend time in prayer for each member of your group.

Goal / Focus: Tree of Jesse. Jesus is the fulfillment of hopes expressed in the Hebrew scriptures.

Hook - Ice breaker type questions to help make the transition into the study time.

- What are some things that stood out to you from Sunday's sermon?
- What is the most fierce animal you've seen in real life?

Background / Reading

Read: Isaiah 11:1-9

- Does anyone have any questions about this passage? Or observations that stand out to you immediately? (Remind those who share that we'll likely return to their ideas in our discussion!)

Book - These questions are designed to get you into the text itself.

- What are some character qualities found in the Messiah in vs.1-5? Do any of these qualities surprise you or stand out to you? (Have someone write them down - you'll come back to them later)
- What is the theme of verses 6 through 9?

Look - These questions will take you on a deeper look at what the passage means for us today.

- What does v.3 mean when it says he doesn't judge by what he see or hears? What does it mean to judge with righteousness and justice instead (v.4)?
- Go back to the first question about the character qualities of the Messiah. Go through each quality and see if your group can think of a time when Jesus exhibited these qualities. (Ex. In v. 4 we learn the Messiah will be a righteous judge, and Jesus exhibits this in his interaction with the woman caught in adultery.)
- How does this image of Jesus fulfill the hopes of those weighed down by woes?

Took - These questions are focused on applying the big idea from the text to our lives.

- In this passage, which quality of Jesus do you connect with most and why?
- How does this image of Jesus portrayed in this passage bring you hope?

- How does this image of Jesus bring hope to people who don't know him, our city, country, and world? Pray about this!