

Sunday, November 29, 2020
Advent Series: "Searching for Christmas"

First Sunday of Advent



When was the last time you were lost? What did you do?

Book of Hebrews was written to Christians who were beginning to doubt what they believe about Jesus because of what was happening in their world. They were beginning to abandon faith and go back to their Jewish roots. Has there been a time in your life when you have felt the same?

Read Hebrews 1:1,2. When was the last time God spoke to you? How did you respond?

Hebrews 1:2 God affirms He has spoken through Jesus his Son. Some scholars document over 300 Old Testament prophecies about Jesus' coming. How can that truth give you confidence today?

Memory verse, Hebrews 1:3. Jesus is the exact representation of God, sustaining all things. Read John 8:51-58 where Jesus claims to be God himself. How does that truth change how you approach this Christmas season?

Hebrews 1:6-8 describes Jesus' kingdom. How does his kingdom compare to the kingdoms we see around us today? Does that give you hope?

Read Isaiah 9:1,2. Isaiah says that the Messiah will take away the darkness we live in. In what area of your life do you need God to remove darkness?

Hebrews 1:8 describes Jesus' reign as lasting forever. Read Revelation 21 as Jesus is revealed in his kingdom and what his kingdom will be like. How can this image reshape my view of my Christmas this year?

"PRAY FOR ONE"- For whom does God place on my heart to pray for an intentional opportunity to intentionally share the good news of Jesus? Will I commit to pray along those lines between now and the end of the year? Who will pray with me?

JOHN 11

If a friend dies, how would you comfort his or her family and friends?

Read John 11:1-16.

- Why do you think Jesus delayed going to Lazarus?
- The disciples question whether it's wise to return to Judea (verses 7-8). How does Jesus respond to them in verse 11?
- If you were one of the twelve, how would you respond to Jesus' statement?
- What do you think Jesus means by saying the event was intended for their belief?
- How would you describe Thomas' state of mind in verse 16?
- Why do you think he was feeling this way?

Read John 11:17-50.

- What can Jesus' assertion that "I am the resurrection and the life" mean to us?
- What must happen before someone can share in this promise?
- Since Jesus knew that he would soon raise Lazarus from the dead, why do you think He wept?
- Describe the different reactions to this miracle in verses 45-50.
- Why do you think some people rejected Christ after this supernatural event?
- Do people give the same reasons for rejecting Christ today?
- Whom do you most identify with in this group:

Mary and Martha the believing Jews the unbelieving Jews

- How important to you is the hope of an afterlife?