

JESUS FOLLOWERS WAIT WITH HOPE

BIG TRUTH: JESUS FOLLOWERS WAIT WITH HOPE

Psalm 39:7; 62:5; 130:5; Hebrews 10:23-25; Romans 8:25; Galatians 5:5

BIBLE VERSE: 1 PETER 1:3-5

"Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! According to his great mercy, he has caused us to be born again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, to an inheritance that is imperishable, undefiled, and unfading, kept in heaven for you, who by God's power are being guarded through faith for a salvation ready to be revealed in the last time."

BIG IDEAS

- Jesus followers remember the gospel.
- Jesus followers strive for when our salvation is made complete.
- Jesus followers wait well for Christ's appearing by loving and trusting Christ above all else.

BIBLE PASSAGE: PHILIPPIANS 3:12-4:1; 1 PETER 1:3-9**ADVENT**

Advent is a special celebration and contemplation of the coming of Jesus Christ that Christians participate in during the Christmas season. Advent literally means "arrival" or "coming". During Advent season, God's people remember and rejoice in Jesus' first coming to save His people from their sins, while at the same time long with anticipation and expectation for His return. Advent centers on Jesus, the saving Son. He alone is the one true King, and He is coming again!

SERIES AIMS**Every student should know that...**

- Jesus has come and is coming again.
- At Advent, we remember His first coming to anticipate His return.
- We are called to wait faithfully for Jesus.

**Every student should feel...**

- Longing within their soul for the King.
- Dissatisfied by the things of the world.
- Awe and wonder that the King has come and is coming again.

**Every student should strive to...**

- Wait with purpose for the return of Christ.
- Memorize the Bible Verse each week.
- Tell someone else about the King who has come and is coming again.

**Every student should want...**

- Trust Christ in the everyday struggles of life.
- See and seek Jesus more than anything else this Christmas season.
- Tell others who are lost about the good news of the King.

STUDENT WORKOUT:

This week we will ponder what it means to hope in the King. We will pray for hearts that hope in God's promises and purposes. We will practice looking forward to the return of the Christ.

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Read and study Philippians 3:12-4:1 this week. Answer the following questions in your journal to guide your study:

- Go back to read verses 1-11 of this chapter. When Paul says, “Not that I have already obtained this...” in verse 12, what is he referring to?
- What is Paul’s aim or goal?
- What is the relationship between these actions and maturity?
- How does verse 17 tell the Philippians that they can know how to rightly live?
- What do these verses tell us about the enemies of the cross of Christ?
- What do verses 20-21 tell us about Jesus followers in contrast to the enemies in verses 18-19?

Read and meditate on 1 Peter 1:3-9 this week. Consider the following questions to guide your meditation:

- Ponder the living hope that is described in these verses. Have you ever been let down? What things are you tempted to put your hope in?
- Consider the inheritance that we are promised. How often do you think about the promises of God? What other promises do you cling to?
- What is your natural response when you go through trials? What would it look like for you to rejoice in them?
- Is there anything in your life that will not “be found to result in praise and glory and honor at the revelation of Jesus Christ”? Repent of these things, and give God glory for His work in your life.



Set aside time to pray each day this week.

- Ask that God would help you to hope in Him alone as you wait for Christ’s return.
- Pray with your small group or parents this week, giving God glory for the hope we have in Him.



Make a list of the things that bring you hope, such as making progress in school or in a sport.

- Think about things about God that bring you hope, specifically, His faithfulness in keeping His promises. Make a list of some of the ways He’s been faithful in your personal life. Remind yourself of these this week.
- Discuss with your small group leader ways to love and trust God above all else this week. Ask them to point out ways that you fall short of this and to help you grow in this pursuit.