

**JESUS FOLLOWERS WAIT
WITH ANTICIPATION****BIG TRUTH: JESUS FOLLOWERS WAIT WITH ANTICIPATION**

Revelation 22:20; Galatians 5:5; Hebrews 9:28; 1 Corinthians 3:11-14; James 1:12

BIBLE VERSE: 2 TIMOTHY 4:8

"Henceforth there is laid up for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, will award to me on that day, and not only to me but also to all who have loved his appearing."

BIG IDEAS

- Jesus is coming again to establish His kingdom.
- Jesus followers wait well for Christ's appearing by holding fast to truth.
- Jesus followers love Christ's appearing over the present age.

BIBLE STORY: 2 TIMOTHY 4:1-8**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!

BIG AIMS**Every child 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 child 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 child 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 child 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.

**JESUS FOLLOWERS WAIT
WITH ANTICIPATION****DISCOVER IT:**

Read 2 Timothy 4:1-8

THINK ABOUT IT:

In Paul's second letter to Timothy, Paul is nearing the end of his life. He reminds Timothy of the truth about God's Word: it is useful to him for teaching and everything needed for equipping people to be able to do every good work. Then, Paul charges Timothy to preach and proclaim that Word, both when it's convenient and when it's not. Timothy should correct those who are wrong and encourage those who are trying to pursue Jesus faithfully. The reason that he should do this, Paul says, is because soon, people won't want to hear truth. They will only want to hear things that sound good to them, and so they will collect teachers who will say the things they want them to say. But this is dangerous, because these people will be turning away from the truth. Even though Paul is at the end of his life, he is not afraid to die. Instead, he says that he has fought the good fight, finished the race that was set before him, and he has kept the faith. Because of this, he knows that there will be a reward waiting for him in heaven. This reward will not just be for him though, for Paul says that everyone who has loved Christ's appearing, everyone who has waited with anticipation for Jesus to come back, will also receive this same reward: the crown of righteousness.

TALK ABOUT IT:

- Why can't we only listen to teachers who make us feel good? (Because God's Word is truth, we cannot turn away from it.)
- Who will be awarded the crown of righteousness? (All who have loved Christ's appearing.)



Work on memorizing 2 Timothy 4:8 by making a crown out of construction paper and writing the verse on the crown. For younger children, work on part of the verse using hand signals "...there is laid up for me (point to self) the crown of righteousness (make hands like a crown on head), ...and not only to me (point to self) but also to all (point out to others) who have loved his appearing (hand to eyes like you are searching)"



Walk around your house or around your city and point out things that are broken, or that don't work as well as they should. Talk about how everything in this world will eventually pass away, and we cannot be satisfied by anything other than Jesus.



Spend time as a family talking about things that each of you loves. Talk about how all of the good gifts that God gives us should make us love Him more. We cannot love anything more than we love Christ and His appearing.



Play a game of True and False as a family. Each person says something that is either True or False and everyone else has to figure out which it is. Example: My hair is pink with blue polka dots- False! Talk about how the world tells us things that are false but Jesus followers hold fast to the truth!

Spend time in prayer as a family, asking God to help you wait with anticipation for when He comes again.