

Pacific Growth Group Sermon Questions

Week of November 27th, 2022

Sermon Series: Homecoming

Sermon Theme/Title: Hope

Primary Text(s): John 16:33; Isaiah 2; Romans 8:26; and 1 Corinthians 15:21.

1. As we begin the Advent season, let's share our experiences with recognizing and celebrating Advent with each other.
 - a. *Has recognizing Advent intentionally always been apart of your Christian journey?*
 - b. *If yes, share your most memorable Advent experience.*
 - c. *If not, talk about when and why you started observing Advent.*
 - d. *Let's share some of our hopes for this year's Advent season.*

2. The Advent season is about the people of God remembering back to the birth, life, crucifixion, resurrection, and ascension of Jesus. Advent is also about remembering the reality of Jesus' imminent second arrival based on what He said He will do.
 - a. *How does remembering these events fill us with hope?*

In Jon's sermon he said Advent gives us hope because:

1. Jesus Has Overcome the World.
 - a. **Read John 16:33.** *What captures your focus and attention in this verse?*
 - b. *With the knowledge of Jesus' victory over the world in mind, how would you explain why we still face troubles in our lives to someone who is struggling to reconcile their faith with the existence of suffering?*
 - c. After Jesus' ascension the early church commonly expressed the Aramaic phrase, Maranatha (meaning: "Come, Lord!" Or "The Lord is Coming!"), when greeting and departing from each other.
 - i. *Let's chat about how focusing on the second coming of Jesus may benefit our lives in the moment and time within which we live today.*

2. The Spirit Has Indwelt Our Hearts.
 - a. **Read Isaiah 2:2 and Romans 8:26.** *Talk about what jumps out to you from reading both verses of Scripture.*
 - b. One of the blessings the Spirit brings to believers in Jesus, are prayers uttered on their behalf when we don't have the words to share with God.
 - i. *Talk about a time in your journey when you felt the Spirit supporting you in prayers when you didn't have the words.*

3. The Resurrection Has Begun.

- a. **Read 1 Corinthians 15:21.** *Let's discuss what God may be saying to us through this verse.*
- b. *Take a moment to reflect on the times in our walks with Jesus when our hope felt like it was in vain.*
- c. *How does the truth of the resurrection of Jesus deepen our hope to keep going in times of trouble and difficulties?*