

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT - QUESTIONS

(Advent Bible Study with Bishop Terry Dance)

Isaiah 35:1-10

- What phrase or image caught your attention or captured your imagination? Why?
(Take 5-7 minutes to discuss)
- Isaiah was speaking to a people who knew all too well about economic, political, relational, emotional and spiritual bondage. What might bondage look like today? What are the things which hold us in captivity?
- How might this magnificent passage speak to those with weak hands, feeble knees and faint hearts today? What is our Advent hope?
- Advent has us look back at old promises that in turn look ahead to a fuller, future joy. For those of us who live in the between times, what might the vision of a Holy Way home for us look like?
- How important is it in the difficult moments to have someone say to us in one way or another ... Be strong. Do not fear. Here is your God.?
(Take 20 minutes to discuss)

Matthew 11:2-11

- What phrase or image caught your attention or captured your imagination? Why?
(Take 5-7 minutes to discuss)
- Does John's situation resonate with you at all? How might it speak to us in our context?
(Take 7-10 minutes to discuss)
- For those who resonate with John, which is all of us some of the time and some of us all of the time ... Look around ... What do you see and hear? Where do you see, hear or feel signs of God's presence in your particular world?
- "Are you the one who is coming", John asked in despair. "You decide", Jesus answered in love. What is the spirit whispering in your heart tonight?
(Take 10-15 minutes to discuss)