



CIBC Sermon-Based Discussion Guide

This guide is designed to help guide life group discussions of this week's sermon at Cayman Islands Baptist Church. For more information on life groups and other discipleship opportunities at CIBC, please visit www.cibaptist.ky.



Get the Picture

- Title:** "Hope"
- Series/Text:** Advent In Isaiah (Isaiah 64:1-9)
- Date:** Nov. 22, 2020
- Speaker:** Pastor Steve
- Main Idea:** Our greatest hope is God's fullest presence.



Group Discussion

a) Connect

- 1) **Commit:** Before you begin, agree as a group that you will commit to having an honest discussion about this text without casting any judgment or sharing any unsolicited advice.
- 2) **Read:** Read **Psalm 139:23-24** out loud before you pray to begin the discussion.
- 3) **Pray:** Pray over the group and ask the Lord to "Search your heart" and reveal idols that are keeping you from receiving truth.

b) Engage

- 1) **Read:** Read Isaiah 64:1-9 again and look for repeating words and concepts.
- 2) **Discuss:** Why is important to understand the First Advent in light of the Second Advent of Christ?
- 3) **Discuss:** What kind of things in the world and in your life cause you to cry out "Come down oh Lord"?
- 4) **Discuss:** How do the following verses help you to slow down and really meditate on the Incarnation? "Wait on the Lord: be of good courage, and he shall strengthen thine heart: wait, I say, on the Lord" (Psalm 27:14); "For evildoers shall be cut off: but those that wait upon the Lord, they shall inherit the earth" (Psalm 37:9); "I waited patiently for the Lord; and he inclined unto me and heard my cry" (Psalm 40:1).
- 5) **Discuss:** Do you tend emphasized God's love over God's holiness or God's holiness over God's love? What are some ways you can grow toward a balanced view of God's character? visa versa?
- 6) **Discuss:** Which metaphor in verse 9 (father, potter or shepherd) speaks to you and why?

c) Apply

- 1) **Consider:** Christopher Davis has an interesting take on waiting for God. Take time to think through the implications for your life in this response. “Another implication of waiting is the reality that God reserves the right to keep us waiting; time was made for humans, not for God. Thus, God is not in a hurry. Another implication of waiting, which is probably the least popular yet the most applicable to the text, is the reality that while God is great, God can also be gradual. When it comes to God’s moves, God’s methods, and God’s miracles, God can be slow.”

Developing Hope:

1. Use the built in anticipation your children have over getting Christmas gifts. Teach them that in our hearts we wait with anticipation for the first and second coming of Christ.
2. Remind yourself often that God will one day fix what is broken in the world.
3. Make decisions and live life from the end to the beginning.

d) Pray

- 1) **Silent Prayer:** Enter into a time of silence to allow God to speak to you in response to everything you discussed today. Listen for areas where He may be telling you He wants you to step out in obedience.
- 2) **Group Prayer:** After a time of silence, close out the study with a group prayer for God’s help to hope in him this Christmas as you are reminded of his second coming.



Going Deeper

- 1) **How do you hope? When you find yourself discouraged how do you hope in Christ?**