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Small Group Homework

For the week of: December 3, 2017
Guest Speaker: Pastor Ted Cunningham
"Leaving Room in Your Heart for Hope"

GETTING TO KNOW YOU

1. What is your favorite Christmas memory?
2. Ted said that many of us are in a state of "waiting." What is one thing that you have been "waiting" on?

QUICK REVIEW

Looking back at your notes from this week's teaching, was there anything that particularly caught your attention, challenged or confused you?

DIGGING DEEPER

1. Ted stated that our faith is really about waiting. In fact, the whole Bible is about waiting, and the hope of the characters in the Old Testament were all about longing for what is to come, more specifically the Messiah. Read Isaiah 9:6-7. This scripture was written seven-hundred years before the birth of Christ. What would have been significant to the readers then?

Why is this significant to the readers today?

2. Simeon and Anna are lesser known characters in the Bible and had been waiting for some time in hopes of seeing the Messiah. Read Luke 2:25-37. How did the Lord use Simeon and Anna?

Was Simeon and Anna's hope wasted?

How is your hope for the coming Messiah being used through this holiday season?

What are ways you can share that hope?

3. Ted spoke about being in that middle ground between loss and hope. After losing something significant we can choose despair, or we can choose to "wait" and hope in the Lord. Asaph, the author of Ps 73 was the worship leader of Israel yet lost hope. Read Psalm 73:1-28.

What are the three parts to this psalm? (the "I's" the "Them's" and the "You's")

What was Asaph's final conclusion in vs 23-28?

4. During this holiday season, what can we learn for Isaiah, Simeon, Anna and Asaph?

TAKING IT HOME

If we have this future hope that is in Christ, who we celebrate the birth of this month, to whom will we share this Good News?

Prayer Requests:

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