

Hope in Advent is not wishful thinking—it is a steady trust that God is at work, even when we cannot yet see the full picture. Just as Israel waited for the Messiah with anticipation, we wait for Christ’s return with the same assurance that God’s faithfulness never fails. Advent teaches us to hold both the ache of waiting and the joy of promise fulfilled. In Jesus’ birth, we see hope made visible; in His coming again, we anchor our future. This season reminds us that God steps into our waiting places, bringing comfort, courage, and the certainty that redemption is always on its way.

Read: Isaiah 9:1–7; Isaiah 40:1–5

1. What specific promises in these passages offer hope to God’s people?
2. Why do you think God often gives hope through promises long before they are fulfilled?
3. How do these verses shape your understanding of Advent as a season of waiting?
4. Which part of God’s character gives you the most hope today?

Read: Psalm 130:5–7; Lamentations 3:21–24

5. What does it mean to “wait on the Lord” in these passages?
6. What emotions or challenges come with waiting?
7. How does remembering God’s faithfulness (as in Lamentations 3) strengthen hope?
8. What kind of waiting are you currently experiencing, and how might Advent speak into it?

Read: Galatians 4:4–5; 2 Peter 3:8–9

9. What does “the fullness of time” mean in the context of Christ’s birth?
10. Why is God’s timing often different from ours?
11. How can trust in God’s timing build hope rather than frustration?
12. What helps you stay hopeful when God seems slow to act?

Prayer Points

Please pray for the Access group and those with additional needs who are often marginalised. Pray that we may continue to grow in our awareness and support of others around us, people who are often overlooked.

Praise God for our vision to plant 30,000 house churches globally this year. Pray that God would enable BMS partners across the world to send and support 60,000 church planters to accomplish this for God's glory.

If you would like to join a Connect Group, please contact the church office 01424 730001



BIBLE STUDY

November 30th 2025

Advent:

Hope

Isaiah 9:1-7

Advent is a season rich with meaning, inviting Christians to reflect on the four central themes of hope, peace, joy, and love as we prepare for Christ's coming. Hope reminds us that God keeps His promises, just as He did in sending the long-awaited Messiah. It encourages us to trust Him in our own seasons of waiting. Peace calls us to rest in God's presence and seek reconciliation, knowing that Christ, the Prince of Peace, brings wholeness to our world and our hearts. Joy invites us to celebrate God's nearness - deeper than simple happiness, it grows from the truth that God is with us. Love crowns the season, reflecting God's decision to enter the world in humility for our redemption. These themes together shape Advent as a time to slow down, reflect, and renew our anticipation for Christ's birth and His promised return.