

PREPARE THE WAY: A CHILD TO THE CHILDLESS

GRACE COMMUNITY CHURCH

DEC 1 & 2, 2018



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INTRODUCTION

Advent is a season of remembrance and anticipation. We remember how God came into the world through Jesus to save his people from their sins and anticipate the day when Jesus will return to consummate his eternal kingdom. In looking backward we remember how God prepared the world for the coming of his Son by providing children to the childless in key moments of redemptive history through Abraham and Sarah and Zechariah and Elizabeth. These central stories teach us God brings life where no life previously existed and does

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. In what ways have you or your family celebrated Advent in previous years?
2. During Advent we are meant to reflect on Jesus' first coming in order to anticipate his second coming. In what ways can you practice both this Advent season?
3. Compare and contrast the stories of Abraham and Sarah (Genesis 12:1-3; 15:1-6; 17:15-21; 18:9-15; 21:1-3) with Zechariah and Elizabeth (Luke 1:5-25). What observations can you make?
4. In what ways did God reveal his glory? In what ways did God reveal his timing? In what ways did God reveal his power?
5. These stories remind us that we are to respond in humility, relying on God to do what only he can do. They remind us to respond in patience, to wait on the Lord and his timing. And they remind us to exercise faith, to believe in God's promises. Where is God calling you to greater humility, greater patience, and greater faith?
6. How can you specifically pray for one another according to how God is challenging you to grow in these ways?