

be born in us today | *praying a Christmas prayer*

Until Christ is Formed in You

Galatians 4:19-26

December 11, 2022

Introduction: How does Christmas move from history into your life? That's what God wants for you and each of us. That's why it happened. Philips Brooks offers us a prayer in the classic hymn he wrote during a crisis in his own life: "O holy Child of Bethlehem, descend to us, we pray; cast out our sin, and enter in, be born in us today." This Advent we pray that prayer together and discover what the Bible tells us about how we let God answer it.

Prayer: Father, continue to prepare in us a sense of His coming during this third week of Advent. Amen

Read: Galatians 4:19-26

Review: Did the last study give you a clearer understanding of Jesus as the true light?

Discussion:

1. In verse 19, Paul is concerned about Christ being formed in the Galatians. How do you relate this concern to Advent (the coming)?
2. Abraham's son by Sarah was the result of a promise – it was a free gift. How does this foretell Advent, another free gift?
3. Paul warns the Galatians about being under the law. What does Advent do for us that the law can never do?
4. How has Advent this year helped you to discover again the good news of Christ's birth and the meaning of the new birth in us as a result?

Application: This week, continue to rejoice in Advent, "the coming".

Prayer: Father, help us to appreciate again the wonder of your gift to us in Advent. Amen.