

Living into Advent

Living in Wonder

Luke 2:15-20

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Introduction: Advent is a sacred season. We step into this time that is rich with meaning and spiritual depth. Advent, derived from the Latin word *adventus*, meaning "coming" or "arrival." This season invites us to prepare our hearts and minds for the coming of Christ. It is a season of hope, preparation, praise, wonder, and waiting. In essence, advent is a way of life. Living into Advent means embracing *kairos* moments as the light of Jesus Christ enters our dark world. Living into Advent means living with eyes wide open and being aware of God's movement in the world and in our lives. It means being spiritually alert to divine opportunities to love and serve others. It means to bring justice and mercy, and to be agents of God's peace. It means looking beyond our current struggles to ultimate fulfillment of God's kingdom.

Review: *How is the joy of Advent being expressed in your life?*

Read: Luke 2:15-20

Prayer: Almighty God, thank you for giving us this time to ponder your word together. Amen

Discussion:

1. What had the Shepherds just experienced? See Luke 2:8-14. What is their response?
2. How did what the Shepherds found in Bethlehem match up with what they were told by the Angel? What did they have to say about that?
3. What do you have to tell? How has what you know about God shown up in your life? What can you praise God for?
4. What is mysterious about God and His presence in your life? How do you take time to ponder these things?

Application: Take time to ask God your questions and to listen for God's answers.

Prayer: Father God, help us to go and see what you are doing in the world and in our lives. Amen