

Waiting in Hope

As Advent and the Christmas season begin, the air prickles with anticipation, longing, and expectation. We are people waiting in hope. Let's discuss Psalm 130 and Romans 8:18-25 to remind ourselves where our hopes are rooted, what we hope for, and how to live as people waiting in hope.

AWARENESS Before listening reflect on what you already know or understand about topics we'll cover in the episode.

- Do you observe Advent? If so, what practices are meaningful to you? If someone asked you to define the purpose and meaning of Advent, what would you say?
- What is hope? When or how has hope played an important role in your life?



LISTEN TO THE EPISODE: [Waiting in Hope](#)

READ [Psalm 130](#), [Romans 8:18-25](#)

REFLECTION After listening, consider the following questions:

- Why does celebrating Christmas give us hope for Christ's return?
- In segment 2, host Dave Bast says hope is believing in God's promises even when it looks like it may not be coming true. When have you found it challenging to maintain hope? What practices or events supported you during that time and helped you maintain your hope?
- What are you doing to keep your hope in God's promises alive?
- How are you helping to reverse the consequences of sin in this world and on creation while you wait patiently for Christ to return and reverse all the consequences once and for all? If you believe the world has a future, how are you investing in it?

RELATED PASSAGES for further study

[Genesis 3:14-19](#), [Hebrews 12:1-3](#), [Hebrews 11](#), [Matthew 25:31-46](#)

CONCLUSION

Read [Psalm 33:20-22](#):

We wait in hope for the LORD; he is our help and our shield. In him our hearts rejoice, for we trust in his holy name. May your unfailing love rest upon us, O LORD, even as we put our hope in you.

In the coming weeks of Advent, return to this passage; pray these words and reflect upon them. How has God shown himself to be your help and shield already? Why does your heart rejoice in him? As you attend services and remember Christ's birth and incarnation, allow these verses to remind you where your hope is rooted, what you hope for, and how you can live into that hope.

<https://groundworkonline.com/episodes/waiting-in-hope>

Printed on May 10, 2025