

Preparing for the Light of the World

Jesus Christ is the ultimate light of the world. During Advent, we celebrate his birth and look forward to his second coming. Let's discuss what it means to prepare our souls for the hope and illumination that Jesus brings, and learn what it means to live in the light of Christ with expectation.

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

- What spaces or situations do you associate with darkness?
- What are some examples of things you prepare for? What does that preparation involve?



LISTEN TO THE EPISODE: [Preparing for the Light of the World](#)

READ [Isaiah 40:1-5](#), [Matthew 3:1-3](#), [John 1:1-14](#), [Matthew 25:35-40](#)

REFLECTION After listening, consider the following questions:

- In your favorite Advent or Christmas traditions, how apparent is it that the first step of preparing for Christ's birth is repentance?
- Where have you looked for hope in the wrong place? When has Christ offered you hope through a source you least expected?
- What situations feel scary or dark to you? How does it make you feel to remember God is willing to bring his love and light into our imperfections and messy situations?
- In segment 3, host Scott Hoezee reminded us that we are not passively waiting to receive the light of Christ when he comes again. Our waiting is active, and we share and reflect Christ's light for others right now. Host Darrell Delaney reminded us that we reflect the light of Christ through our love, our patience, and our forgiveness. Where in your life can you reflect the light of Christ through love, patience, or forgiveness?

RELATED PASSAGES for further study

[2 Corinthians 7:1](#), [Galatians 3:26-29](#), [Psalm 119:97-105](#), [1 John 5:13-15](#), [Jeremiah 29:12](#), [Psalm 145:17-19](#), [Matthew 4:1-11](#)

CONCLUSION

As they closed the episode, Darrell said, “We are all invited to share in that story [telling of Christ’s coming] as we live as people of hope in this time.” Scott and Darrell taught us that our preparation during Advent involves encountering Jesus’ light, receiving his light, and continuing to shine his light through Scripture, prayer, and action. Where do you feel the Spirit prompting you to dwell or grow in your preparations this year?

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