

NOTES & QUOTES

HE IS *Here*

November 28 – December 19



These Talking Points can be used throughout Advent and applied to each message during the series. Weekly Talking Points will resume again in January.

Christmas is the celebration of God's Kingdom coming in the person and work of the promised Messiah, Jesus Christ. Jesus is Emmanuel, meaning God with us. Christmas is a time to come to the manger to see God's gift of love to the world, and to experience God "with us" in the midst of our lives. By grace, through faith, Jesus not only delivers us from the curse of sin, but he is also present with us in the triumphs and sorrows of life and has made it possible for us to be with him now and forever. This is the beauty of the incarnation! The truth that the eternal Son of God became flesh and dwelt among us is at the very heart of the Christian faith. Our hope rests on the nature and mission of this one born in Bethlehem.

CONNECT *(Build Relationships)*

1. How are your Christmas plans coming along, and how are you feeling this week as Christmas approaches? Are there any challenges or things you are looking forward to?
2. Our Advent series is called "He Is Here." Were there any experiences you had this past week that made you aware that Jesus was present?
3. What Christmas carol or movie would best illustrate how you are feeling this week?

THRIVE *(Explore Biblical Truth)*

Each week of Advent read through these Bible texts and answer the following questions.

Week 1 – John 1:1-14

Week 4 – Luke 1:46-55

Week 2 – Isaiah 7:14, 9:6 and Micah 5:2

Week 5 – Luke 2:8-20

Week 3 – Matthew 1:18-25

4. What things stand out to you as you read these verses?
5. What do these verses communicate to you about God or yourself?
6. As you read these verses how might they apply to your life?
7. How do these verses reveal to you that He is here?

COMMIT *(Be On Mission)*

8. What is something you could do this week to help you become more aware of Christ's presence with you?
9. What is one way you could bless someone this week as a reminder to them that Jesus is present and loves them?
10. What is one way you could apply the message from this week into your life and your Christmas?

PAUSE, PONDER & PRAY

"The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us. We have seen his glory, the glory of the one and only Son, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth." *John 1:14*