

Advent 1 Study Guide Hope – Isaiah 9: 1-7

1. Advent Meaning = The arrival of a notable person or thing Start today by simply sharing about the last time you got excited about the arrival of a notable person in your life.

2. Do you ever feel that God is silent on something?

- Do you get **impatient** with waiting on God for something He has promised?

- Do **you doubt God will do what He said he would do** when you don't feel you have heard from Him in a while? Can you think of Biblical examples where someone started to doubt in the promises of God?

3. When it comes to the promises of God and particularly the O.T. prophecies surrounding Jesus, are there any that remember, that encourage you in your walk with God today?

4. Look at verse 1, isn't this often the way that we see God treating those that call Him Lord? What other examples can you recall that demonstrate God's discipline and justice in one moment and unfailing love in the next?

- Have you experienced this in your own life?

5. How do verses 5-7 speak into a theology of 'Now and not yet,' with regard to the death and resurrection of Jesus?

- Can you apply these verses into the battle that you currently face (with the knowledge that Jesus has ultimately 'won the war' at Calvary, but yet you still have to live with the effects of the daily battle that you are in)?

6. Hope is described in the following ways...'the feeling of anticipating a future that is better than the present.' And 'it's a state of anticipation, crucial for healthy human existence.'

After reading these verses again today, what gives you hope for the future days?