

# Expecting



## SERMON OUTLINE

Sunday December 11th, 2016

PASTOR DAVID COOKE:

- **Feeling Small**

- **Qualifications**

Deuteronomy 7:6-9 (ESV)



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- **Going According To Plan**

*“The book of the genealogy of Jesus Christ, the son of David, the son of Abraham.” (Matthew 1:1, ESV)*

1 Samuel 16:1,7,18; 17:12

Matthew 2:1-6 (ESV)

- **What You Can Look Forward To**

Micah 5:1-6 (ESV)

*<sup>2</sup> But you, O Bethlehem Ephrathah, who are too little to be among the clans of Judah, from you shall come forth for me one who is to be ruler in Israel, whose coming forth is from of old, from ancient days. <sup>3</sup> Therefore he shall give them up until the time when she who is in labor has given birth; then the rest of his brothers shall return to the people of Israel. <sup>4</sup> And he shall stand and shepherd his flock in the strength of the LORD, in the majesty of the name of the LORD his God. And they shall dwell secure, for now he shall be great to the ends of the earth. <sup>5</sup> And he shall be their peace.*



**A. A Shepherd**

**B. God's Strength and Glory**

**C. Security**

**D. Peace**

- **Not Too Small**

- *God chooses the insignificant to be part of the meaningful.*



## ADVENT DEVOTIONAL

**ICEBREAKER:** What are three things you look forward to during the Christmas season?

**THIS WEEK** (listen to the message at: [www.coldspringschurch.net](http://www.coldspringschurch.net))

Giddy anticipation. Insatiable curiosity. Plus, a low-level, electrical current of fear. This is expecting. This is looking forward to the hoped for but still unknown. For thousands of years people expected a savior and those who embraced Jesus were not disappointed. With anticipation, curiosity and fear we look to Jesus this Christmas, we look to the savior who does not disappoint. Join us in expecting... **"The King Is Coming"** - join your Cold Springs Church family as we go through this 26-day Advent devotional available for free at: <http://bible.com/r/Wp> or the Bible app. For a shorter 7-day devotional, check out **"An Advent Journey of Hope"** with Louie Giglio available at: <http://bible.com/r/Jx>. something (or someone) great.

Advent is a fancy way of saying "arrival." It's a time of waiting, of anticipating the coming of something (or someone) great. The birth of Christ, his advent, marks God's ultimate plan for our redemption. In Christ, we see the fullest picture of God's hope, peace, joy and love. It is our hope that this guide will encourage and facilitate personal time spent in the Word and provide a resource for families with children to do that together.

### **"Change" Day 8: The King Is Coming Advent Devotional**

Christmas might be very different this year. Maybe it's your first year as a married couple or with a little one. Or maybe you have no choice but to alter your traditions because the one who used to long put up the lights or bake the chocolate chip cookies is no longer there. Maybe you live somewhere new, away from family and friends.

Transition, even for the good, can leave us feeling unsure and unanchored. Sometimes we don't know where to start, or which way to go. In Psalm 119, God's Word is described as a lamp to our feet. In moving forward, we can expect only our next few steps to be lit. Why at our feet? Why not on a series of poles to light up the road for several miles? Why not literally have it lit up like a Christmas tree? Wouldn't that be better? Safer? So we can see where we're going?

Yet relying on God's guidance every step of the way helps build our faith and trust in him. Once we believe Christ is who he says he is, and accept him into our hearts, we step onto this path. If we let him, he will help us form new habits and traditions, and renew our purpose. He may not change the circumstances as we'd like, but we will never walk alone. Although Christ is changing us, we can rely on him to be the same yesterday and today and forever.

### **REFLECT**

Take time to pinpoint what is keeping you from moving forward.

### **RESPOND**

What do you want to change in your life? What steps of faith have you taken? Consider setting a reminder for yourself every day to use prayer and God's Word to help you through times of transition.



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