

Expecting



SERMON OUTLINE

Sunday December 18th, 2016

PASTOR DAVID COOKE:

- Tired of Trying
- Playing By The Old Rules
- Something New, Something Beautiful



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Jeremiah 31:31–34 (ESV)

³¹ “Behold, the days are coming, declares the LORD, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah, ³² not like the covenant that I made with their fathers on the day when I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt, my covenant that they broke, though I was their husband, declares the LORD. ³³ For this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, declares the LORD: I will put my law within them, and I will write it on their hearts. And I will be their God, and they shall be my people. ³⁴ And no longer shall each one teach his neighbor and each his brother, saying, ‘Know the LORD,’ for they shall all know me, from the least of them to the greatest, declares the LORD. For I will forgive their iniquity, and I will remember their sin no more.”

- **It’s Not Up To You**

- I will..

- a) Make a new _____
- b) Put my _____ within them
- c) Write it on their _____
- d) Be their _____
- e) Forgive their _____
- f) Remember their _____ no more



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- **Where Is God?**

- ***Never Lose Hope***

"But this I call to mind, and therefore I have hope: The steadfast love of the LORD never ceases; his mercies never come to an end; they are new every morning; great is your faithfulness. "The LORD is my portion," says my soul, "therefore I will hope in him." The LORD is good to those who wait for him, to the soul who seeks him." (Lamentations 3:21-25, ESV)

- **Not Far Away**

Luke 2:25-32 (ESV)

- **To find, all you have to do is be willing to seek.**

"And without faith it is impossible to please him, for whoever would draw near to God must believe that he exists and that he rewards those who seek him." (Hebrews 11:6, ESV)

- **Expecting...**

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 in expecting...

Answers: covenant, law, hearts, God, inquiry, sin.



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Dec 18, 2016 Advent Devotional

"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>.

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.

God is With Us (Mt. 1:23, excerpt: "The King Is Coming" devotional)

There are many exciting things that come along with pregnancy—celebrating with friends and family, discovering the sex of the child, and picking a meaningful name for the child. For Mary, the naming part was already taken care of. She would give birth to a baby boy and he would be called Immanuel: God with us.

God with us. What a concept. No matter where we go, God is with us. No matter how seemingly far we fall, God is with us. No matter how deep into despair we feel, God is with us. In times of great joy or times of insurmountable grief, God is with us. Why is he with us?

Because he loves us. He loves us and there is nowhere else he wants to be than right at our side. There's no place too far or wide, too high or low, that the love and grace of God cannot reach us. It's as simple as that.

Christmas is a special time where we gather with family and friends and reflect on everything that has happened that year. The holiday season is not only a time where we look back on the past; we also look forward towards the future. This Christmas, let's reflect on the times God has met us with grace over the past year, and look forward to receiving his love and being more aware of his constant presence as we walk through our daily lives.

REFLECT

God loves us and is with us no matter where we go.

RESPOND

Are there times in your life when you have felt the overwhelming presence of God? How can you find time in your schedule to feel the presence of God?



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