

LIFE Groups: Advent 2025

Week 1 - Past, Present, Future

Advent - Messianic Mis-Expectations!

The season of Advent is a unique and special time on the Christian calendar that actually runs counter to the culture around us! Let's enter Advent with hearts and mind open to a fresh encounter with Jesus, Our Lord!

1 - "Check-in" with your Group -

Invite each person to share briefly about how their week is going, and what they are looking forward to with anticipation in this season of Advent.

2 - Watch Pastor Scott's Video on Advent 1, "Messianic Mis-Expectations!"

- What do you think are some hopes or expectations that Christians have about the Messiah today?
- What are your thoughts as you hear about some of the expectations among the Jewish people about the Messiah - both in modern day and during the 1st Century when Jesus was born?
- How could these expectations have caused many to miss what God was doing through Jesus and His mission?

Read 2 Chronicles 36:22-23 - *These are the last verses found in the Jewish order of the Hebrew Bible (what we call the Old Testament). How could these verses have led some to consider Cyrus the Great to be God's Messiah?*

Now read Matthew 28:18-20 - *These are the last verses of Matthew's Gospel that begins the New Testament - how is it similar to Cyrus' pronouncement, and how it is dramatically different?*

Matthew's Genealogy - Matthew 1 is the link to the entire Hebrew Bible!
As we reconsider the significance of this list, what stands out to you?

Read Matthew 1:16-23 - *This is a familiar Christmas passage, but what things do you notice in reading it this season?*

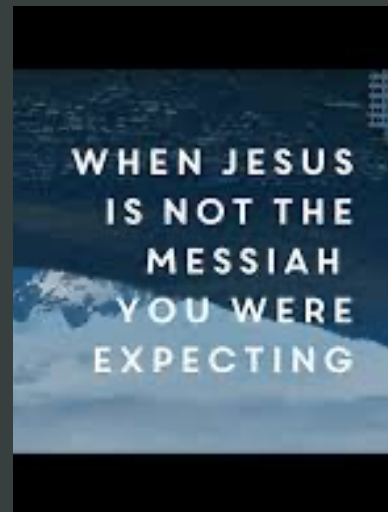
Spiritual Formation practices - Advent Expectations!

Some Advent practices...

- **Put up a family Advent calendar to count the days until Christmas Eve!**
- **December 6 - St. Nicholas' Day:** Research the real St. Nicholas, a 4th century Christian bishop from Myra, and member of the Nicene Council.

Pray together!

- **Pray for each other! Pray that we would live in Advent expectation!**



**Visit the EagleNaz
YouTube Channel
for more!**

**See all the Advent
videos on the
YouTube playlist
called Advent
2025 on the
EagleNaz
Channel!**