

Discussion & Reflection Questions: Hope is a long game

Advent 1 - 27th of November 2022

Read: John 1:1-14

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. ²He was in the beginning with God. ³All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being ⁴in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. ⁵The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it.

⁶ There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. ⁷He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. ⁸He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light. ⁹The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world.

¹⁰ He was in the world, and the world came into being through him; yet the world did not know him. ¹¹He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him. ¹²But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, ¹³who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God.

¹⁴ And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth.

Discussion & Reflection Questions

1. Is there something that you usually do during Advent to mark the season?
2. The 1st verse wants us to think of Genesis 1. What do you think John means by suggestion that the word, Jesus, was there in the beginning?
3. If God was, is & is to come. What do you think it means that hope was, is & is to come?
4. Have you had an experience of finding hope in a dark or messy time or experience?
5. How does the "cultural hope" we see in the world differ from the hope that Jesus brings?
6. What does it mean to you to know God? What does it mean to you to be known by God?
7. Grace upon grace is an amazing gift. How can we allow that grace to overflow to others in our lives?

Prayer

Almighty God, give us grace that we may cast away the works of darkness and put on the armour of light, now in the time of this mortal life in which your Son

Jesus Christ came among us in great humility, that on the last day, when he shall come again in his glorious majesty to judge the living and the dead, we may rise to the life immortal; through him who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.