

BEST CHRISTMAS EVER – WEEK ONE – GROUP DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. What are some traditions that help prepare you for Christmas? Examples are an Advent wreath, special baking projects, driving around at night to see the Christmas lights or drinking egg nog.
2. Pastor Dave said that our inability to delay gratification is often the root of many of our problems. He gave examples of being in debt and health problems due to poor eating choices. How are you at delaying gratification?
3. 400 years prior to Jesus arrival, God was totally silent. The Jewish people needed to hold onto God's promises of a Messiah. How challenging do you think it was for people of that time to remain faithful to God? What can we learn from them?
4. Pastor Dave gave us three ways to make the most of the season of waiting. Please discuss each point and the corresponding Scripture.

1) Learn as much as I can

- Psalm 119: 33-40 (The Message)

GOD, teach me lessons for living
so I can stay the course.
Give me insight so I can do what you tell me—
my whole life one long, obedient response.
Guide me down the road of your commandments;
I love traveling this freeway!
Give me a bent for your words of wisdom,
and not for piling up loot.
Divert my eyes from toys and trinkets,
invigorate me on the pilgrim way.
Affirm your promises to me—
promises made to all who fear you.
Deflect the harsh words of my critics—
but what you say is always so good.
See how hungry I am for your counsel;
preserve my life through your righteous ways!

2) Connect with God often

- Isaiah 40:31 (New Living Translation)

But those who trust in the LORD will find new strength.
They will soar high on wings like eagles.
They will run and not grow weary.
They will walk and not faint.

3) Be faithful to do what I can do

- 2 Timothy 4:7 (New Living Translation)

I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, and I have remained faithful.