

FINDING TIME



DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- Advent is a time of hope as we wait for the gift of Jesus at Christmas. How does the birth of Jesus give us hope in a difficult world?
- Isaiah speaks about the hope of new life sprouting from something that was dead. When have you seen new life spring up in a surprising place?
- How has God brought goodness or new life out of a dead or broken place in your life? Share some examples.
- What are some broken places in need of healing and hope in our world today?
- How do we participate in bringing God's hope into the world?
- Who are some people you know who could use a word of hope? What might you say to them?

A shoot shall come out from the stump of Jesse, and a branch shall grow out of his roots. The spirit of the Lord shall rest on him, the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord. His delight shall be in the fear of the Lord.

He shall not judge by what his eyes see, or decide by what his ears hear; but with righteousness he shall judge the poor, and decide with equity for the meek of the earth; he shall strike the earth with the rod of his mouth, and with the breath of his lips he shall kill the wicked. Righteousness shall be the belt around his waist, and faithfulness the belt around his loins.

The wolf shall live with the lamb, the leopard shall lie down with the kid, the calf and the lion and the fatling together, and a little child shall lead them. The cow and the bear shall graze, their young shall lie down together; and the lion shall eat straw like the ox. The nursing child shall play over the hole of the asp, and the weaned child shall put its hand on the adder's den. They will not hurt or destroy on all my holy mountain; for the earth will be full of the knowledge of the Lord as the waters cover the sea.

On that day the root of Jesse shall stand as a signal to the peoples; the nations shall inquire of him, and his dwelling shall be glorious.

Isaiah 11:1-10