

## Advent Part 1 Hope Reflection Questions 11/27/2022

- 1. What do you think of this definition of *hope*: "an overall optimistic attitude about the future based on the goodness and promises of God"? How is this definition different than general "positive thinking"?
- 2. Several individuals from the Bible were mentioned in the sermon, because of facing a hopeless situation (Peter, Abraham and Sarah, Job, Mark, Elijah, Samaritan woman, Paul, Joseph). Can you think of any other accounts in the Bible that seemed hopeless?
- 3. What did you think of this statement: "There are no hopeless situations with God, only people who have lost hope"?
- 4. Can you relate to being a person of "blockage focused" who tends to focus on problems that block you from living a fulfilled life? Have you been tempted to think that if you didn't have that one issue, then you could really enjoy life?
- 5. Why do you think people would rather live a pessimistic life never being disappointed, instead of a hope-filled life, that has occasional disappointment?
- 6. Romans 15:4 tells us that God recorded Scriptures so that through the Scriptures we might have hope. Does your personal Bible reading tend to be hope-filled? If you feel hopeless after reading a Bible passage, should you reconsider how you understand that passage?

- 7. What did you think of the analogy of changing the TV channel away from Satan's "hopeless channels" to God's "hope-filled channels"?
- 8. Did you agree with the statement, "Feelings don't validate what is truth. Feelings only validate what we *believe* to be true"?
- 9. What did you think of this statement: "Transformation happens when we renew our minds with truths that are higher than what we are feeling and experiencing"?