



ChaseteamMalvern

All Saints – St Andrew's – St Mary's  
Partnering with God in the flourishing of our communities

## **Advent: The Light has Come**

### **Life Group Material**

### ***Hope in the Darkness***

**w/b 30<sup>th</sup> November 2025**

*(Feel free to choose questions as appropriate for your group)*

#### **Starter:**

1. *On a scale of 1-10, what do you think the level of hope is at the moment*
  - a. *in the world at large?*
  - b. *in the Church?*
  - c. *in your own life?*
2. *What gives people hope do you think?*

#### **Read Isaiah 9:1-7**

*Isaiah wrote during a period of fear, political turmoil, and spiritual confusion. The northern tribes (Zebulun & Naphtali) were hit hardest by the Assyrian Empire. The people lived under foreign oppression, corrupt leadership, spiritual confusion and fear of the future. Into this context, Isaiah speaks a message of hope, light, and the promise of a Messianic King.*

1. *What strikes you/ jumps out at you from these verses today?*
2. *Verses 1-2. What forms of “darkness” do you see – both in Isaiah’s time and today?*
3. *Where have you seen God bring light into the darkness?*
4. *Verses 3-5. Why would these verses be like light in the darkness for the original hearers and why might they be for us?*

5. *What might be some examples of the 'yoke that burdens' us today?*
6. *Verses 6-7. Here is the announcement of the birth of a new king. In what way do these verses about a Messianic king fit with who we know Jesus to be?*
7. *Why are these verses reason for hope*
  - a. *In Isaiah's time?*
  - b. *For you personally?*
  - c. *For the world politically?*
8. *Which title for the Messianic king speaks most to you at the moment? Why?*

**Questions to finish with:**

9. *How can we hold onto the hope we have in Christ, especially in dark times?*
10. *How might we be bringers of hope to those around us (and also not get burnt out in the process)?*

As a group, you might like to light a candle and spend some time waiting on God, meditating on the hope God brings in Christ. You might like to listen to or sing an advent hymn, e.g., *O Come, O Come, Emmanuel* or *Come, Thou long expected Jesus*.

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