

HOPE NUGGETS FOR ADVENT

Luke 1.5-25

As Luke sets out to tell the story of Jesus, he begins with the birth of Jesus’ forerunner: John the Baptist. In this story, elements of hope emerge that can strengthen our faith and trust in God.

Hope Nugget #1

Social Disfavor **DOES NOT EQUAL** Divine Disfavor

But they were childless because Elizabeth was not able to conceive, and they were both very old... Luke 1.7

In fact, everyone who wants to live a godly life in Christ Jesus will be persecuted, while evildoers and impostors will go from bad to worse, deceiving and being deceived. But as for you, continue in what you have learned and have become convinced of, because you know those from whom you learned it... 2 Timothy 3.12-14

Hope Nugget #2

God is working in our lives **LONG AFTER WE HAVE GIVEN UP.**

“Do not be afraid, Zechariah; your prayer has been heard....” Luke 3.13

...being confident of this, that he who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus. Philippians 1.6

Therefore, my dear friends, as you have always obeyed—not only in my presence, but now much more in my absence—continue to work out your salvation with fear and trembling, for it is God who works in you to will and to act in order to fulfill his good purpose. Philippians 2.12-13

Hope Nugget #3

God’s dream for you is greater than **YOUR DREAM FOR YOU.**

He will be a joy and delight to you, AND..... Luke 1.14-17

“No eye has seen, no ear has heard, and no mind has imagined what God has prepared for those who love him.” 1 Corinthians 2.9

Hope Nugget #4

Hope is strengthened by **FAITHFULNESS** and enhanced by **SILENCE** and holy **WAITING.**

*I say to myself, “The Lord is my portion; **therefore I will wait for him.**” The Lord is good to those **whose hope is in him**, to the one who seeks him; it is good **to wait quietly** for the salvation of the Lord.*

Lamentations 3.24-26

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What is God saying to me?

What am I going to do about it?