

LIFE GROUP DISCUSSION GUIDE

PRAY TOGETHER

Lord Father God, we thank You for the opportunity to gather as a community of believers in Your presence, as we seek to grow closer to You during this Advent season. Open our hearts and minds to the guidance of the Holy Spirit, that we may hear Your voice and discern the action steps You are calling us to take. Help us to reflect on the immense promise You fulfilled through Christ and the ultimate act of love demonstrated by His birth. May our discussions today inspire us to live joyfully and faithfully, embodying the spirit of generosity and togetherness we learned from David's story and the importance of gathering as Your faithful people. Amen.

ICE BREAKER

Describe one moment from your Thanksgiving or early Advent season so far that has made you think, "I wasn't ready for how busy (or meaningful) this season would feel." What surprised you most? What are you grateful for?

SERMON OVERVIEW



**SCAN FOR
SERMON CLIP**

This message explores the connection between King David's desire to build God a house and our call to gather as God's people during the Advent season. Through the story of David and the hymn "O Come All Ye Faithful," we discover that God values gathering together and has always desired to dwell with His people. David's life was messy, marked by both triumph and terrible failure, yet God remained faithful to him. The Christmas story reminds us that we truly cannot outgive God. When we come to the end of ourselves and recognize all He has done despite our imperfections, we discover that His response is always more blessing, more grace, more promise. The hymn 'O Come All Ye Faithful' was written during a time of division and persecution, calling scattered believers to gather together in joy and triumph. Today, we face our own divisions and distractions, but the call remains the same: come together, remember His faithfulness, and celebrate that Emmanuel—God with us—has arrived.

READ SCRIPTURE

2 SAMUEL 7:1-17 & HEBREWS 10:19-25

READ THE LYRICS TO 'O COME, ALL YE FAITHFUL,'

CONNECT RELATIONALLY

1) As we enter into this Christmas season, we all desire to focus on advent, which is ultimately about preparing our hearts in joyful anticipation to receive the best gift of all. How are you getting 'spiritually' ready this Christmas? How does this idea connect with the invitation of "O Come All Ye Faithful"?

2) Both King David and John Francis Wade (writer of O Come All Ye Faithful) valued the people of God assembling: especially in divided or unsettled times. Has this practice remained steadfast or weakened at times for you? How have your habits of gathering with believers strengthened or depleted your faith?

**GROW
SPIRITUALLY**

3) In 2 Samuel 7, David realizes he is living in a palace while the ark of God remains in a tent. What does this moment reveal about David's understanding of God's faithfulness, presence, and kingship? How can material blessings either draw us closer to God or distract us from Him?

4) Instead of accepting David's offer to build Him a house, God responds with overwhelming promises of grace and legacy. The birth of Christ delivered on that promise. What does this teach us about God's character and about the way God's redemptive plan ultimately finds fulfillment in Jesus?

5) Hebrews 10 calls us to "spur one another on toward love and good deeds" and to "not give up meeting together." In practical terms, what behaviors in Christian community help encourage and strengthen others?

**LIVE
GENEROUSLY**

6) Pastor CJ mentioned that Christmas is "God's flex" - His showcase of credibility and integrity in keeping His promises. How can focusing on God's faithfulness to His promises change the way you approach this Christmas season and what is one concrete way you can lean into it this week?

7) David's impulse when recognizing God's goodness was generosity ("I need to build you a house"). How does gratitude naturally lead to generosity? What might God be calling you to give during this season - whether time, talent, resources, or presence?

8) As the sermon closed, we were challenged to invite friends and neighbors to be part of the Christmas gathering. Who is one person God might be placing on your heart to invite and what simple step could you take this week to extend that invitation?

**TAKE
ACTION**

Based on our conversation today, how is the Holy Spirit inviting me to take a next step in practical application?

I am feeling convicted to take the following action (keep it simple):

Please ask each member to share their step if they have one. It is ok if you are still discerning and need time to process, pray and ponder.

**PRAY
TOGETHER**

Please take a few moments to ask each member to share a joy or praise and an area of concern. Ask someone to pray over these requests, and please distribute them to all group members so you may continue to intercede for one another between your meetings.

**ENGAGE
TOGETHER**

Serve One. Worship One. - This Christmas, your entire group can serve together and be a part of something meaningful. Join us as we strive to greet every guest with hospitality, warmth and joy! Pick a service to worship, then choose a way to serve with a team that fits your gifts. Be the reason someone feels welcome and at home this Christmas at Northview.