

<i>Advent I</i>	27 November 2016
The Promise of a Savior	

God keeps **ALL** his promises

Key Passages

Genesis 3:15; 12:3
Isaiah 7:14-15; 9:1-7; 53:1-12
Micah 5:2
Matthew 1:21

Thinking & talking through the bible during the week helps turn what God is saying into action steps. Here are some questions to start.

Reflection Questions:

- What questions and comments did you have about the sermon and supporting texts?
- Mike said *"frustrations are birthed out of unmet expectations."* Agree/disagree? Why/why not?

Read the **key passages** on the other side.

- Summarize what they promise. Which one(s) surprised you?
- How are these promises fulfilled in Jesus?
- What do you **anticipate** about this season?
- What helps you see the **wonder** of Christmas?
- What healthy **expectations** do you have?
- Why is the season of Advent – Christmas good news?
- How do you keep the story of Jesus, of salvation fresh?

The Savior is Jesus.

- We look **back** and we look **forward**:
God **has kept** his promise(s) and **will keep** his promise(s).
 - He will crush the head of the devil – we can't
 - He will bless all peoples – we can't
 - He will bring peace – we can't
- Without Jesus life becomes a series of *"what's next."*
With Jesus we can know his presence in the middle of *"right now."*
- Mike said *"no one has lied to you, deceived you, and betrayed you more than you have. We make crummy gods over our own lives."*
- How will you, this Advent season – drop anchor, dig deep, or whatever imagery you want to use – remind yourself of all that Jesus has, is and will continue to do?
- Anticipation, wonder, expectation, are redeemed when we begin to believe and embrace that the same God who promised Jesus and who showed up and accomplished these things will return. Not as a baby in a manger to inaugurate the kingdom [He already did that] but to bring the kingdom to it's fullness.

Living it Out

- Write a promise of God on the board. Post a picture with #promise
- Sign up to be part of Mary & Joseph's Amazing Journey thru Orillia
- Pick up or download (and us) our Advent Guide
- Invite someone to Christmas Eve 4:30pm | 6:45pm