

Advent 2018
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I Thessalonians 3:12-13
December 2nd, 2018

Small Group Discussion Questions

This week is the beginning of Advent

The meaning of Advent is the arrival of Jesus.

- *Do you have any traditions or practices during this season?
- *How do these things prepare your heart for celebrating the arrival?

Christmas is a season of full of excitement, wonder and anticipation

The season can also hold a lot of tension and loneliness.

- *Where do you find your heart at the beginning of this season?

Read and discuss I Thessalonians 3:12-13 (NIV)

¹² May the Lord make your love increase and overflow for each other and for everyone else, just as ours does for you. ¹³ May he strengthen your hearts so that you will be blameless and holy in the presence of our God and Father when our Lord Jesus comes with all his holy ones.

- *What is this passage saying to you? About how we live and love?

Paul's longing, his 'wish-prayer' is for their capacity for love to be expanded

That our hearts may GROW in capacity.

- *What is the difference between 'loving more' and 'expanding our capacity for love'?

He is arriving in our lives and all around us, every day

His arrival pulls our hearts toward growth and love.

- *How do you see Jesus arriving in your life right now?
- *What helps when you can't feel his arriving?

The Father's wish-prayer is that his arrival changes everything

- *What wish-prayer do you have for someone else this season?
- *What wish-prayer do you have for yourself?