

# STUDY NOTES

## ADVENT 2018

a series at New City Church

[www.newcityphx.com/sermons](http://www.newcityphx.com/sermons)

The following content is based on the message "Advent: People of Peace" on 12/2/18 at New City Church in Phoenix, AZ. The following is not meant to be a full synopsis but rather a brief look at the main ideas. To use this Study Guide effectively you must listen to the message found at <http://newcityphx.com/sermons/>.

Leaders using these study notes for group study and reflection should read the Biblical text thoroughly before beginning, using this resource as assistance and not relying solely on this material for insight. We encourage all leaders to pray and ask the Spirit for revelation as they lead their respective community groups.

## PRAYER

Pray and ask God to lead the discussion as everyone gets to share.

## SCRIPTURE: ROMANS 8:18-23

## LIVING AS A PERSON OF PEACE

Throughout Advent we celebrate the first coming of Christ. We remember what Jesus has already done for our sakes. Advent should also give us hope that Jesus will return as he promised. He will come to restore everything to the way things are supposed to be. We can look forward to the day when heaven and earth come together and create something new.

- *What do you most look forward to about the future restoration of the creation?*

## PATIENCE FROM PEACE

The world is not as it should be currently. We all experience suffering in one way or another. Meaning that we have to wait for the day that Jesus restores all things. We can't go ahead of the Lord's plan. We have to wait on him. This should lead us to be patient with other people. All suffering is a reminder that the world is not as it should be. In this shared suffering, we all wait together.

- *Why should it give you peace currently knowing that all things will be made new?*
- *Why should it lead to being patient with other people knowing that all things will be made new?*

## EXPECTANTLY WAITING

The Christian can find peace in expecting Christ to return. Even though the world isn't as it should be, there will be a day when all will be renewed. If we all lived in comfort, we would have no reason to turn to Jesus. Comfort pulls us away from expecting Christ's return. Instead of pursuing money and pleasure, we should live for Christ's return.

- *Think about a time in your life when you pursued Christ with great dedication. What type of event was it that ignited you to pursue him?*
- *How should expecting Christ's return lead to pursuing him rather than pursuing money and pleasure?*

## PEACE IN THE RESURRECTION

Not only does Jesus's first coming give us hope for his second coming, but also his resurrection proves to what we can look forward. Jesus's resurrected body shows us the model of the redeemed bodies. One day, we will experience a life with no infirmities, no struggle, nor disease.

- *How should the resurrection of Jesus give you more peace?*
- *Pray with each other to live as people of peace.*