



WEEK 1

LOVE • JOY • HOPE • PEACE

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LOVE // WEEK OF NOVEMBER 28TH

Read Isaiah 43:1-13, John 3:16-17, Romans 8:38-39, I John 4:9,19

What stands out to you from these passages?

List some of the promises God makes in Isaiah 43:1-13. Which ones resonate with you the most? Why do those promises stand out?

Notice the time that this Isaiah prophecy was given. Over 600 years before the birth of our Savior Jesus, God is speaking to His people. He is not absent. They are not alone. Never. Before Jesus came to earth, God reminds His people in Judah that He is with them, for them, preparing a way for them, their children, their children's children. God reminds them of a truth we all need to hear today: He is God and He loves us.

God's words to Isaiah are a reminder for the people of Judah, but also for us, that He is for us, with us, and loves us. God's greatest act of love for us comes through him sending His son to become the ultimate sacrifice for our sins. This is what God has always wanted for us, to experience His saving love. A love that even our fears and worries can't separate us from.

As you meditate on this truth of Advent, remember that even before Jesus came to earth, there was always God. His love for us was always present, and it is the same for us today. Take time to read and remember His love for us in the evidence He gives in Isaiah 43.

- He created and formed us

-Isaiah 43:1, Genesis 1:26-31

- He is with us

-Isaiah 43:2

- He saves us through Jesus

-Isaiah 43:3

-Hebrews 2:1-16

Additional resources can be found at graceclarksville.com/intheword.

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OPTIONAL FAMILY DISCUSSION:

This season is about celebrating the birth of Jesus. It was in Bethlehem that Mary and Joseph, Jesus' earthly parents, welcomed Jesus into the world. They had traveled to Bethlehem because the law said that Joseph had to go to his hometown to be counted in a census. 1 John 4:9 says that "God's love was revealed among us in this way: God sent his one and only Son into the world so that we might live through him." God sent the gift of Jesus into the world to be born in the little town of Bethlehem to demonstrate His deep and everlasting love for us. We can love others because of the love that God shows us through His son Jesus.

How do we see God's love in our family?

How do the verses we read show us God's love for us?

How can we show love to others this Christmas? Get creative, let everyone share an idea and brainstorm as a family how to make it happen.

SONG // Come Thou Long Expected Jesus

WATCH // The BibleProject Video - LOVE - graceintheword.cc/love

PRAYER // God, thank You for this season of Advent. Help us use these weeks to look with anticipation toward the coming of your Son. Thank you for sending this gift of love to us through Jesus. Help us during this season to reflect and rejoice that love has come to us in the form of a baby born in Bethlehem. Help us to find ways to share this love you have given us with others during this season. We love you Lord, In Jesus' name we pray, Amen.



FUN FAMILY ACTIVITY FOR THE MONTH

THE LIGHT OF THE WORLD

Pick a night during this month to drive around and look at Christmas lights and listen to Christmas music. (Bonus: Take some hot chocolate) On the drive, talk about how the lights of Christmas bring peace and joy to people who see them. Remind your family that the Bible calls Jesus the Light of the World. Discuss ways your family can be a light this holiday season by sharing the love, joy, hope and peace of Jesus to others.

If you would like fun family activities for each day in the month of December, see page 15 (inside back cover)