DISCUSSION GUIDE



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- 1. How do you respond to the idea that God planned your creation and salvation before your beginning? What does it mean to you that God was present before the beginning?
- 2. What shame, fear, or guilt this year leaves you feeling vulnerable? How does knowing God will clothe you make you feel?
- 3. How do you react to this statement: "God means for the bad things we do to become the good things He has done"? Explain your answer.
- 4. As you anticipate the new year and reflect on the current one, who or what have you longed for? How will you reorder the eyes of your heart in the coming year? How does the season of Advent prepare you to do so?

DAYS 7-13

- 5. How would you describe your relationship with money? When have you put your hope in money (or monetary wealth) for satisfaction and security?
- 6. Why is it so hard for humans to see their neediness? How does acknowledging your neediness make you feel?
- 7. Read Psalm 51:10-12. How do you identify with David's situation? Why is it important to know that God will grant you a clean heart and a renewed spirit?
- 8. Jesus will be with you always, until the end of the age. How do you react to this truth? How does the season of Advent encourage you that Jesus is faithful?

DAYS 14-20 _

- 9. What does it mean to you that God has chosen to make his home with you?
- 10. Read James 4:8. What would "drawing near to God" look like for you in the New Year?
- 11. Meditate on the idea of "God with us" and Psalm 139:7-8. How do you respond to the truth that wherever you go, God is there?
- 12. How do you define "seeking the face of God"? What will you do during the Advent season to pursue Christ?

DAYS 21-25

- 13. Do you consider yourself patient, impatient, or somewhere in between? Give a few examples. How do you reconcile the Scripture that says God is not slow and is patient and experiences where you perceive God is slow?
- 14. What does it mean to you that Jesus sympathizes and empathizes with you? Why is important that in his humanity, he did not sin?
- 15. What are some practical ways that you can experience the light and illumination of Christ right now?
- 16. How does trusting in Jesus create an obedient heart in you? How does that bring you peace? How has this Advent season revealed these things to you?