

## **Dig Deeper @Home – “Songs of Advent”**

### **Complement to sermon on December 31, 2017 – Living with an Advent Urgency**

#### **MEMORIZE – Revelation 21: 3-4**

And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, “Behold, the dwelling place of God is with man. He will dwell with them, and they will be his people, and God himself will be with them as their God. He will wipe away every tear from their eyes, and death shall be no more, neither will there be mourning, nor crying, nor pain anymore, for the former things have passed away.”

#### **READ Revelation 22:6-21**

##### **Questions to ponder/discuss:**

1. What is this passage revealing about God and what is it revealing about us as humans?
2. If the above is true, what needs to change in your life? What will that look like?
3. In these verses, the phrase, “Behold, I am coming soon” is repeated three times. (verses 7,12,20) and it is also repeated in 2:16 and 3:11. We can never miss the note of urgency and warning in all what Jesus tells us about His coming. Read Matthew 24:42-44. What does Jesus say we are to do to prepare for His coming?
4. In verse 10 – it says, “Do not seal up the words of this prophecy of this book, for the time is near.” How is this command in contrast to Old Testament prophecy found in Daniel 8:26? The phrase, “the words of prophecy of this book” is repeated several times in this passage. (vss. 7,9,10,18,19)

Read each verse and describe what it says we are to do in relation to these words.

5. In verse 17, the word “come” is used three times. How does this speak to the good news of the gospel of redemption? What is the cost to the one who receives this water? (cf. Isaiah 55:1-2)
6. In verse 12, He says, “My reward is with me, and I will give to everyone according to what he has done.” Does this mean that we are saved by our works? (cf. James 2:20, Titus 3:5-8) How are we to live according to verse 14? Contrast that with the lifestyle indicated in vs. 15

**Bottom Line** – Summarize Revelation 22:6-21 in your own words

## EXPERIENTIAL

Sometimes activities help us to understand and process biblical truths. The one below is a suggestion for how to experience the truths of Revelation 22:6-21

**Waiting Game-** (If you have children or grandchildren, have the family gather around the table) Ahead of time prepare to have a special treat for dessert or special snack. As the children arrive at the table, tell them you have a special surprise for them, but it's not here yet. Keep building up the surprise for at least five minutes as the children wait. Finally, have someone bring in the special treat. Then ask: How did you feel as you waited? Was it easy or difficult to wait? Explain. Was the wait worth it? Why or why not? Refer to Revelation 21-22 when Jesus returns. How exciting a time that will be and how important it is that we are ready and waiting for this great return.

**SING** (suggested songs to sing. Use these or any song you might want to sing)

**One Day – Matt Redman** <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LGAdaGbmFs>

A great song speaking about the new heaven and the new earth and what it will be like when we get to see Jesus face to face at his return.

**Hark! Ten Thousand Harps – Mennonite Hymnal #201**

Sing this hymn as a praise to the Savior who reigns in heaven and who one day will come to bring a new heaven and a new earth into being.

## PRAY

This is a time to gather around for prayer requests and to share how you have seen God at work. It is a time to hear where God is showing up in our lives and where we need Him to help us in our lives.

**Sending prayer based on the lesson:**

Lord Jesus. Come to us. Abide with us. Refresh us and sustain us with the hope of your soon return. Live in us and reign through us. We give you praise, our glorious Lord and Savior, as we wait restlessly for Your return. Amen