

SMALL GROUP Q'S

Emotions of Christmas: Longing and Hope

December 4, 2016

Isaiah 11:1-10

- 1.) What do you remember the month of December being like as a child? Did you have trouble waiting for Christmas, and what were you most longing for as you waited?
- 2.) Will described longing as “our deep desire for true fulfillment, for things to be as they should be.” What specifically do you long for in your own life?
- 3.) What are the areas of desperation or aching that you feel or have felt in your own life? That is, what makes you long for something to be different in your life or in your world?
- 4.) Do you agree that everyone (Christian or not) feels these deep inner longings at some time? What does the Bible (think Genesis 1 or Romans 1) have to say about this? If so, how can this reality be a bridge for us with our unbelieving neighbors and friends?
- 5.) Read the descriptions of justice and righteous rule (11:2-5) as well as of harmony and curse reversal (11:6-9). Do these seem like “pie in the sky” to you? Do you long for them to be a reality that you actually live in the midst of?
- 6.) Read Isaiah 11:10 together. If it’s true that all the nations will rally to Jesus, what difference should that make in the way we live and relate to others around us?
- 7.) What are temporal things in which you are tempted to think you will find true hope and satisfy your deepest longings? Why can they never do that?
- 8.) C.S. Lewis wrote, “If I find in myself a desire which no experience in this world can satisfy, the most probable explanation is that I was made for another world.” Do you agree? Do you find such a desire in your own heart?
- 9.) In what ways does creation still ache or long? In what ways do you ache or long along with it? How will you order your Advent season this year to be better able to consider the hope that would fulfill your longings and soothe your aches?



For more information about Southwood or Small Groups visit: southwood.org

SMALL GROUP Q'S

Emotions of Christmas: Longing and Hope

December 4, 2016

Isaiah 11:1-10

10.)



For more information about Southwood or Small Groups visit: southwood.org