"I wake up energized. I never go to bed that way. Just once I'd like to end a day feeling as good as I did when the day started. I don't want to live like this anymore."

- West Wing TV Drama

#### "People can't change."

"Life has no meaning. You wake up, go to work, go home, cook dinner, go to bed, wake up and do it all over again."

## We don't want to live like this anymore.

# Jesus: Our Christmas Hope

## In areas where we lack hope, we are embracing a lie.

### "For nothing is impossible with God."

Luke 1:37 NIV

## "No freshly spoken word from God is impossible."

# "In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was with God in the beginning."

John 1:1-2 NIV

"The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us. We have seen his glory, the glory of the One and Only, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth."

John 1:14 NIV

"From the fullness of His grace we have all received one blessing after another. For the law was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ."

#### "No one has ever seen God, but God the One and Only, who is at the Father's side, has made him known."

John 1:16-18 NIV

In this Advent season, it is essential, thoughtful, and wise to pause, to take a moment, and rejoice in Jesus and the hope He brings.

#### 1. Emanating Hope

Hope finds its origin in the Trinity, not in our willpower, good deeds, or positive attitudes. It is a gift from God.

	Father	Son	Spirit
Creation	Gen 1:1, 26;	Gen 1:3, 26;	Gen 1:2, 16;
	2:7	Col. 1:15-18	2:7
Incarnation	Luke 1:26,	Matthew 1:21,	Gen 1:1, 26;
	30, 35	24; Luke 1:31	2:7
New Creation		Jn 3:16; Rom. 5:8; Gal. 1:3-4; 4:4-5	

#### 2. Enduring Hope

Luke 1:32-33, "He will be great and will be called the Son of the most High. The Lord God will give him the throne of his father David, and he will reign over the house of Jacob forever; his kingdom will never end."

#### 3. Effectual Hope

Matthew 1:21, "She will give birth to a son, and you are to give him the name Jesus, because he will save his people from their sins." NIV

## I tried to text, "I'm on my way", but sent, "I'm IN my way", and I think I just had a therapy breakthrough."

- Anonymous Social Media Post

## While hope is accessible it requires trust and surrender.

Romans 15:13

#### 4. Embodying Hope

Romans 15:13, "May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in Him, so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit." NIV

#### 4. Embodying Hope

- a. God is hope.
- b. We can overflow with hope.
- c. The Holy Spirit will empower us.

We find common reactions among the wise men, Mary, Joseph, Elizabeth, the shepherds, Simeon, and Anna when we look at the incarnation story, the Advent story, found in Matthew 1-2 and Luke 1-2.

#### How to Respond to this Message:

Response #1: Go see Jesus. (Luke 2:15)

Response #2: Talk with others about Jesus. (Luke 2:17)

"I have much to celebrate this Christmas. A new perspective on life. One: share Jesus anytime you are able; no one knows when we will close our eyes for the last time. Salvation is the greatest gift of all."

Pastor Tom Buchan

#### How to Respond to this Message:

- Response #1: Go see Jesus. (Luke 2:15)
- Response #2: Talk with others about Jesus. (Luke 2:17)
- Response #3: Do this wherever you live. (Luke 2:20)

## We don't want to live like this anymore.

# Wedon't have too! Jesus gives us