

Discipleship Follow Up

SERMON TITLE: Are We Still Singing Christmas Carols?

DATE PREACHED: Jan 12, 2020

Biblical Study:

- Rev 22:16-21. Note these final words of Jesus in scripture.
- See also Rev 21:1-8 & Matt 24

Application Questions:

1. There were three points in the sermon yesterday that reference ways we can wait in a healthy and effective manner for the Lord to return. The first point talked about being ready and staying awake! For this to happen, we need to continually grow in God's standards and not the world's. Revival begins with repentance! Washing our robes in the purification of Christ and the Holy Spirit (Rev 22:12-15). Read Matt 3:1-12 and Romans 12:2. Does your prayer life and walk with Christ include healthy and humble elements of repentance before God? Has that repentance led to a turning away of those behaviors you know God wants to deliver you from?
2. The second point focused on being part of God's mission team. We are not in a holding pattern while we wait! Jesus says His followers must carry on His mission – be His hands and feet. He sent us the Holy Spirit to assure that the power to do this would be available to us. Read Matt 10:8 and Luke 10:9. Do you believe in the power of God to work through your prayer life? Are you bold enough to pray with other people in a moment? In what ways are you showing others that “the Kingdom of God has come near to them” through the Body of Christ that is the Church. This Kingdom presence is the Church's mission as we wait for Jesus to bring the Kingdom in full!
 - a. Bonus question: Read Matt 25:13-30. Note these words come right after Jesus' comments on His returning. It's as if He is instructing us what to do and what not to do as we “wait upon the Lord's coming.” Talk about this as a group.
3. The final point made was that we should never give up hope as we wait...no matter how long it seems. Hope leads to peace and peace to joy. Read 1 Thess 4:13-18. What are you hoping for that heaven will provide someday? How has that hope transformed your thoughts, heart, and mind today?