



WORTHY

Week 1

BREAKING THE ICE

- What is the BEST Christmas movie?
- What is your favorite Christmas activity?

MAIN CONTENT

This week, Pastor Kevin spoke on waiting. He defined “hurry sickness” as a compelling sense of time urgency. We feel hurry sickness as we wait for Jesus to return - just as the Jews in the old testament awaited the birth of Jesus. The name for Advent season comes from the word “arrival”, because Advent, historically, has meant remembering and preparing for Jesus to return. We need Advent to meditate and prepare our hearts for the day when Jesus comes back. In the waiting, He is working!

1. Why do you feel the waiting period is so hard?
2. Why is the waiting period necessary?

This “hurry sickness” causes us to doubt the plan the Lord has for us. We are so worried about what is next that we forget to be grateful for the place the Lord has already brought us. Pastor Kevin read in Luke where Simeon is waiting on the consolation of Israel. He continued to wait and wait....and wait. He was promised by God that he would not die before he had seen the Messiah, and he waited his whole life. He could have easily given up, but he continued to wait and worship. Until finally Jesus was born and suddenly he was holding Who he had been waiting for in his arms.

3. Have you ever doubted God’s plan because it was taking a long time to occur?
4. How do we stay faithful in the waiting season?

Staying attuned to the Holy Spirit helps us through the waiting period. The Spirit brought Simeon and Anna peace in their time of waiting and reminded them the Lord keeps His promises. Worship can also help us through the waiting. Worship can look different for everyone. You can fast or you can worship the Lord through singing. We know that worry and worship cannot coexist at the same time – we must trust that the Lord’s ways are higher than ours and remember that there is purpose in the waiting!\

5. What are some truths to remind ourselves of in the waiting season?
6. What is something that you are waiting on in your life right now?

CLOSING PRAYER

Lord Jesus, thank You for seasons of waiting. Thank You for the things you are doing in this time of waiting. You are building more strength and character in this time. May these seasons strengthen our relationship with You and trust in You. Help us recall Your character. You are a good God Who wants good things for His children. Remind us of the ways You have shown up in the past, and help us remember that You can do it again. We love You and we praise You, Jesus. Amen!

ACTION STEP

- Think of something you are waiting for, and in prayer, hand it over to the Lord today. Let Him hold it until it is time for Him to fulfill His promise.
- Spend 10-15 thinking through promises that God has kept and answered in your life. Write them down and keep them with you this month as a reminder that God has worked in the waiting before and is doing it still.
- Is there someone in your life who is far from God or who doesn’t know His love for them? One thing we don’t have to wait for is spreading the good news about Jesus! We even have invitations you can use to invite them to Christmas at Cross Point!
- In the busyness of this season, make sure you carve out some intentional time to worship in the waiting. You can listen to Cross Point Music’s new EP, “Advent: Here Now” and Cross Point Church’s accompanying Advent 2023 Podcast!