

December 16, 2018
Series: Christmas Notes
Part 3: The Weary World Rejoices (Because We Have Hope)
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1. Did/do you do the “Elf on a Shelf” or some other kind of fun tradition for your children?
2. Did you ever peek at your presents when you were a child (or an adult)?
3. Did you believe in Santa? How do you do Santa with your children?
4. The title of the sermon is taken from the song “O Holy Night”: “The weary world rejoices.” The following line says “For yonder breaks a new and glorious morn.”
 - *What do you think of when you sing or hear the phrase “The weary world”?
 - *What do you think of when you sing or hear the phrase “a new and glorious morn”?
5. Isaiah predicted the birth of Jesus: “Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign: The virgin will conceive and give birth to a son, and will call him Immanuel” (7:14).
 - *What does Immanuel mean? (**God with us.**)
 - *Why is the name Immanuel important to you?
 - *What other name is Jesus called that means a lot to you and why?
6. Hebrews 10:23 tells us to “hold fast the confession of our hope without wavering, for he who promised is faithful.”
 - *How has God been faithful to you?
 - *In what way are you counting on his faithfulness to you in your present circumstances?
7. Hebrews 11:1 defines faith as “being sure of what we hope for and certain of what we do not see.”
 - *What kind of every day “horizontal” things do we hope for but do not really count on? (**good weather, a raise, Chiefs winning the Super Bowl, etc.**)
 - *What is a horizontal hope you have?
 - *According to Hebrews 11:1 how is our vertical hope, or our hope in God, differ from that? (**It involves certainty.**)
 - *How is certainty different than knowledge?
 - *What is one vertical hope you have?
8. Have you ever prayed what the man with the sick boy said to Jesus in Mark 9:24: “I do believe; help me overcome my unbelief”? Do you recall what caused you to pray it?
9. Hebrews 10:22-25 urges us to “draw near to God.” Read the verses and see if you can find ways to help us draw near to God. What are ways you draw near to God?