



## LIFE GROUP NOTES

Week Beginning: 1st December 2024



### What are you waiting for? Genesis 49:8-11

#### Warm Up

What is the longest wait that you have had? What was it for? Are you still waiting for something? What is it like not knowing if you will ever get/see what you are waiting for?

#### Background and context

Advent is the season of preparation for Christmas. It is all about waiting. From a Christian point of view it is about waiting for Jesus. Waiting for God to fulfil His promises. These promises were first given in the early chapters of Genesis and refer to Jesus. But of course when the people in the Bible were waiting they didn't know who it was. How frustrating that must have been. What great faith it takes to trust God to deliver on His promises without knowing the exact details!

#### Thinking it through: Main discussion/activity



**READ Genesis 49:9-11:** *What are the surprising things in the passage? What is new? What don't you really understand?*

1. Everyone is waiting for something. How does what we wait for reflect what is important to us?
2. In **Genesis 49**, Jacob blesses his sons. What do you make of the blessing to Judah?
3. How does the blessing to Judah point to Jesus?
4. How and why is the world under a curse? What does this look like?
5. How is the imagery used in **v11** a picture of removing the curse of the fall?
6. Read **Matthew 1:1-3,16**. Why are these verses so important in verifying Matthew's claim that Jesus is the Messiah?
7. **Read Romans 11:25-26. 2 Peter 3:9.** What is God waiting for?
8. Why is this both a warning and a word of hope?

#### Discipleship and Application

God WILL fulfil His promises, and Jesus will return to remove the curse on this earth and reign as King forever.

9. How can we live confidently in the light of the above statement?
10. What is our responsibility in the light of the above statement?
11. What should our lives look like in the light of the above statement?

#### Try to leave 15-20 mins to talk about prayer needs of the group and to pray.



We want to encourage the development of prayer, to help everyone grow in confidence in praying. There are many creative ways of praying together: writing prayers, using candles as a focus, reading prayers or praying for each other in pairs.