

# Advent - Week 1

*The Gift of Waiting*

Psalm 27:7-14 / Matt 1:18-25



## MESSAGE NOTES

By nature, we don't like waiting and usually aren't very good at it.

God's Word calls us to see waiting as a discipline of faith as we anticipate what God will do.

## QUESTIONS TO CONSIDER

What circumstances cause me to struggle most with waiting?

How can our impatience lead to greater problems?

What role does faith play as we find ourselves waiting on the plans of God to take shape?

# GOD'S WORD FOR TODAY

## Psalm 27:7-14

**7** Hear, O Lord, when I cry aloud; be gracious to me and answer me!

**8** You have said, "Seek[d] my face. My heart says to you, "Your face, Lord, do I seek."

**9** Hide not your face from me. Turn not your servant away in anger, O you who have been my help. Cast me not off; forsake me not, O God of my salvation!

**10** For my father and my mother have forsaken me, but the Lord will take me in.

**11** Teach me your way, O Lord, and lead me on a level path because of my enemies.

**12** Give me not up to the will of my adversaries; for false witnesses have risen against me, and they breathe out violence.

**13** I believe that I shall look[f] upon the goodness of the Lord in the land of the living!

**14** Wait for the Lord; be strong, and let your heart take courage; wait for the Lord!

## Matthew 1:18-25

**18** Now the birth of Jesus Christ[e] took place in this way. When his mother Mary had been betrothed to Joseph, before they came together she was found to be with child from the Holy Spirit. **19** And her husband Joseph, being a just man and unwilling to put her to shame, resolved to divorce her quietly. **20** But as he considered these things, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream, saying, "Joseph, son of David, do not fear to take Mary as your wife, for that which is conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. **21** She will bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins." **22** All this took place to fulfill what the Lord had spoken by the prophet:

**23** "Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and they shall call his name Immanuel" (which means, God with us).

**24** When Joseph woke from sleep, he did as the angel of the Lord commanded him: he took his wife, **25** but knew her not until she had given birth to a son. And he called his name Jesus.