

## Making Room in Advent Week One Discussion Questions

- 1) Are you waiting for a relationship to be reconciled or a loved one to come to faith? Are you waiting for healing, either emotionally or physically? It is tempting to believe God isn't working while we wait, but God is always working. Read Luke 1:5-25. How does Zechariah and Elizabeth's story give you hope in seasons of waiting?
- 2) On page 14 of the Making Room in Advent devotional, the author writes, "When I am forced to wait, I grow. My patience, perseverance, and longing for God deepen. I learn to loosen my grip on control as I recognize, like Zechariah and Elizabeth, that no amount of righteous living can bring God's plans into fruition. He brings them in his own time and in his own way." How have you seen God grow your patience, perseverance, and longing for Him in seasons of waiting?
- 3) Sometimes, we believe that doubt is the opposite of faith, but Pastor Aaron reminded us in his message that doubt is a part of faith. Zechariah and Elizabeth's son, John, experienced doubt. Read Matthew 11:1-5; 11. How does John the Baptist's question to Jesus permit you to ask Jesus the question or questions you wrestle with?
- 4) Hebrews 11:1 says, "Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen." Faith requires us to be honest with God in prayer. God is making room for you to draw near to Him in wonder, curiosity, and with questions. Psalm 145:18 says, "The LORD is near to all who call on him, to all who call on him in truth." Spend time in prayer and talk with God about your faith questions.
- 5) On day 3 of the Making Room in Advent devotional, the author challenges us to make room for God by waiting with Him in silence. Do you ever practice the discipline of sitting with God in silence? Why or why not? What would it look like for you to schedule times of silence with God during the season of Advent?
- 6) What do you hope for God to do in you, through you, or around you during Advent as you make room for Him?