

## A Worship Discussion Guide for Individuals, Groups & Families for the week of November 30, 2025

Read the Bible passage aloud in your group meeting. This is a worship discussion guide, and our reflections and applications are grounded in Scripture. You do not need to work through the whole guide. Decide which points would be most helpful for your meeting, and use them as a starting point for your time together.

## Galatians 4:4-5 God Sent Forth His Son

In the Christian year, Advent is a time that helps us to remember Christ's first coming and reflect on the mystery of the Incarnation. It also teaches us to look eagerly for His second coming when He will return to redeem His creation and exercise His rule with all power and authority.

This Advent, we prepare for celebrating the birth of our Lord by considering God's great promises in Galatians 4:4-5. Each sermon and liturgy of the four Sundays of Advent will focus on a single phase from this text.

<sup>4</sup>But when the fullness of time had come, God sent forth His Son, born of woman, born under the law, <sup>5</sup> to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as sons.

- What does Paul mean by "the fullness of time"?
- Why did God send forth His Son?
- Christians have a particular way of marking time, fixed on Jesus Christ. Just as God's people awaited Christ's first advent, now we wait for His second advent. For this week's Call to Worship, we read Romans 13:11, "The hour has come for you to wake from sleep. For salvation is nearer to us now than when we first believed." What will it be like when Jesus comes again?
- WEPC often uses historic confessions and creeds in worship as summary statements of the teachings of Scripture. This
  week, we read from the Belgic Confession as our *Declaration of Faith*. What reasons does the confession give for why
  "God sent forth His Son"?

We believe that our good God, by His marvelous wisdom and goodness, seeing that man had plunged himself into both physical and spiritual death and made himself completely miserable, set out to find him, though man, trembling all over, was fleeing from Him.

And He comforted him promising to give him His Son, "born of a woman," to crush the head of the serpent, and to make him blessed.

• Each Sunday, we pair a complementary Scripture reading with the sermon text. This week's Gospel reading included Luke 1:67-75, Zechariah's song as he waited for "the fullness of time". What did the Holy Spirit tell Zechariah about the impact of God sending forth His Son?

Zechariah was filled with the Holy Spirit and prophesied, saying, "Blessed be the Lord God of Israel, for he has visited and redeemed his people and has raised up a horn of salvation for us in the house of his servant David, as he spoke by the mouth of his holy prophets from of old, that we should be saved from our enemies and from the hand of all who hate us; to show the mercy promised to our fathers and to remember his holy covenant, the oath that he swore to our father Abraham, to grant us that we, being delivered from the hand of our enemies, might serve him without fear, in holiness and righteousness before him all our days."

Pray together in light of this week's passage.

