

# ADVENT



HOPE



PEACE



JOY



LOVE

**Pastor Clay Smith**

The Tree Where Hope Began

*Genesis 1-3*

**Advent Hope:**

1. Hope begins with \_\_\_\_\_.

2. Hope is born through \_\_\_\_\_.

3. Hope is \_\_\_\_\_ and

\_\_\_\_\_.

4. Hope looks forward to Jesus'

\_\_\_\_\_.

**November 30, 2025**

**Discussion Questions**

1. Before sin enters the story, what does Genesis 1-2 show us about God's original design for humanity? How does this picture help define what biblical hope actually longs for?
2. Why do you think the tree of the knowledge of good and evil was placed in the center of the garden? What does its presence teach us about trust, freedom, and obedience; and where hope is meant to rest?
3. In Genesis 3, Adam and Eve reach for something they hope will make them "like God." How does this misplaced hope mirror the ways we still look for life, identity, or fulfillment outside of God?
4. How does the brokenness introduced in Genesis 3 (shame, hiding, relational conflict, toil, death) create the very conditions in which true hope becomes necessary? Which of these do you most relate to right now?
5. If Advent celebrates the beginning of God's rescue plan, how does Jesus - the seed of the woman - fulfill the hope first promised in Genesis 3? What difference does that make for your life this week?