



CONNECT
with Jesus



GROW
together



GO
make disciples

ONE CHURCH · MULTIPLE LOCATIONS

Downtown

405 NE 6th St.
Saturday @ 5p
Sunday @ 8:50,
10:10, 11:30a

Murphy

8551 New Hope Rd
Sunday @ 10a

Redwood

2193 Midway Ave
Sunday @ 9 & 10:30a

GET CONNECTED

Connect Card | New to River Valley? Have an update? Want more info? Have prayer request? Please fill out *Connect* card in chair back or at Connect Center.

To Download My Church App | Follow instructions here: Text "RVCbeliever" to 77977 and follow the instructions of the text response.

EVENTS

- **Rogue River Campus Interest Meeting** | Join Pastors Austin Abbott and Duane Stark as they provide information and answer questions about the upcoming Rogue River church plant. Join us at the Downtown Campus on this Sunday at 11:30am in Rm. 107.
- **Faith House Wreath** | If interested in helping women in need this season, find the Faith House Wreath at your campus, grab an ornament, and bring the gift back to your campus or front office by Dec. 13.
- **Joe's Place** | Grab a Joe's Place handout in the Connect Center if interested in supporting this outreach by purchasing a Christmas Tree or participating in Fill-A-Pack.
- **Lifeline** | We are collecting for our Lifeline Ministry today. If you'd like to give to help those in need, please use the Love Offering Envelope.

ADVENT READING PLAN

Prophecies

- Day 1
Genesis 3:15
- Day 3
Psalm 22:14-18
- Day 5
Isaiah 7:14

Fulfillment

- Day 2
I John 3:8
- Day 4
John 19:23-37
- Day 6
Luke 1:35

NEW TO RIVER VALLEY?



For more information, visit the Connect Center. To register online, and a complete list of events, visit rivervalleycc.org



HOPE

Selected Scriptures

1. Why is Advent so Important?... We are people of HOPE

2. What are the False "Hope's" of Christmas?

- Materialism ...The Pursuit of Possessions
- Hedonism ...The Pursuit of Pleasure
- Sentimentalism ...The Pursuit of Good Feelings
- Activism ...The Pursuit of Involvement

3. Why do we pursue False "Hope's"?... Sin and Brokenness

4. What has God done to bring us True Hope?

• God's Christmas Promise ...A Savior will come!
Gen 3:15; Gen 12:3; Is 7:14; Is 9:6,7; Is 53:2-11; Micah 5:2

• God's Christmas Preparations *Gal 4:4*

1. Spiritual Preparations...The Babylonian *Captivity*
 - Israel became Monotheistic
 - The Bible (OT) was Compiled
 - The Synagogue was Established
2. Cultural Preparations...The Greek *Empire*
 - One Main Language of the World
 - Old Testament Translated into Greek
 - New Testament Written in Greek
3. Political Preparations...The Roman *Empire*
 - The Roman Roads and Universal Peace
 - The Decree/Census of Augustus *Micah 5:2, Luke 2:1-7*

5. What is the BIG IDEA of Advent?... Substance over Shadow

Col 2:16,17

- First Advent...Jesus Came
- Second Advent...Jesus Coming Again
- Daily Advent...Jesus Come NOW

LIFE GROUP LESSON • DECEMBER 2-8

1. Finish the following statements:
 - This is how God has used this group in my life over the last 12 weeks....
 - A significant area of growth and change for me over the last 12 weeks has been...
 - I want to thank or encourage....(another group member) for....(share specifically what God has done in you through them or what you want to encourage them with)
2. Looking back at your notes from this week's teaching was there anything that particularly caught your attention, challenged or confused you? Anything you hoped we could briefly talk about?
3. God planned Jesus' arrival thousands of years before it happened. What does that tell us about God?
4. Read Col 2:16,17 – In what ways are you most tempted to pursue the "shadow" of Christmas more than the "Substance" of Christ? What are some of the consequence of this?
5. Why is there typically a big let down after Christmas? What does this teach us about true hope vs. false "hope's"?
6. In what ways do you desire and plan to celebrate Christmas in a more healthy and God-honoring way this year?
7. Where have you experienced disappointment lately? How does the hope of Christ brighten that disappointment?