A.L.I.V.E. Bible Study Date: December 19, 2021

Advent Week 4

Micah 5:2-5a, Hebrews 10:5-10, Luke 1:39-45, Luke 1:46b-55

Theme: Dream

Even as we begin to see God's way of compassion and mercy, we also—like Joseph—come to acknowledge our reliance on God communicating with us and transforming us, not just in our waking, conscious lives, but in our sleeping, unconscious lives as well.

Read Micah 5:2-5a

- 1. What is promised in this prophesy that would bring hope to those who heard it?
 - a. Though you are the least, out of you will come the ruler.
 - b. There will be return to a previous unity and a time before this trouble.
 - c. He will stand in strength and provide security to those whom he is called to shepherd.
 - d. He will be our peace when people come against us with hostility.

Read Luke 1:39-55

- 2. In this passage, Mary praises God for his blessing on her life. What are some praises that she gives in her "song" of praise.
 - a. He has been mindful of her humble state (vs 48).
 - b. She recognizes that this blessing is not just for her, but for those to come (vs 48).
 - c. She declares that this is an example of his mercy extending "to those who fear him" (vs 50).
 - d. Verses 51-53 seem to point out God's power to raise up and knock down. This sounds a lot like the prophetic promise from last week that the valleys would be lifted up and the mountains and hills would be made low in Isaiah 40:4.
 - e. Verses 54-55 point out God's faithfulness to his people and fulfillment of his promises.

Read Hebrews 10:5-10

- 3. What, according to 10:5-14, did Christ say when he came?
 - a. Sacrifices and offerings you did not desire...
 - b. Here I am, I have come to do your will...
- 4. So, we know that Christ brought an opportunity for the better future that he promised. We know that he is faithful to his promises and he extends mercy to those who fear him. What does he desire from us?
 - a. He definitely wants burnt offerings.
 - b. No, he replaced burnt offerings with a task list to accomplish.
 - c. Simple. Obedience. And Trust.

What does obedience and trust look like?
What does it look like in your life?