

## INI-SDG

In the Name of Jesus – To God Alone the Glory

12.6.2009 Advent 2 – St. Stephen Lutheran (West Bay) Mountain View, CA

**Intro/Children's Sermon:** What are you doing until Christmas? Prepare Eve

**Greeting:** Grace, mercy, and peace be to you from our Lord Jesus. Amen.

**NAS Philippians 1:9-11**

**9 And this I pray, that your love may abound still more and more in real knowledge and all discernment,  
10 so that you may approve the things that are excellent, in order to be sincere and blameless until the day of Christ;  
11 having been filled with the fruit of righteousness which comes through Jesus Christ, to the glory and praise of God.**

**Prayer:** Lord, bless through Your Word of Grace, our coming in to Your house and our going out now and forevermore. Amen.

Christmas is coming! How are your plans for Christmas coming along?

Things to do List:

- |                       |                               |
|-----------------------|-------------------------------|
| -Shopping for gifts   | -Wrapping gifts               |
| -Decorating house     | -Preparing for guests         |
| -Cleaning up          | -Picking up family/friends    |
| -Buy food             | -Start preparing food         |
| -Hair cut             | -Fix camera (family pictures) |
| -Finish work projects | -Plan travel                  |
| -Have a baby =]       | -and buy diapers              |

= How is there going to be enough time for everything, until the day?

**Theme: ...Until the Day Comes.**

Background/Purpose = "missionary letter" Paul thanks Philippians for support – he is imprisoned in Rome at the time

**1. A letter of...** Thanks 1:3.

**V9** "may abound" = Paul's personal prayer/ and petition for their growth

Love - can always grow! **(2 Pet 3:17-18)**

Love grows = *in knowledge of our Savior and what He does*

Love grows = *in discernment (understanding) – His will for you*

= Growing only happens when watered...

-Watering only happens with the Word.

Therefore = Faith does not sprout up on its own. **(Rom 10:17)**

What are we doing to grow and learn more?

= Getting into the Word of God, taking advantage of the opportunities!

-Making time for relationship with Jesus in prayer and reading

= How to study? -the best start is getting started. **(1 Pet 2:1-3)**

-Thanks for opportunities to share study (my prayer for you too)

What is Advent? = preparing for Christ's coming!

-Like preparing for Lord's Supper

Things to do List? = preparing heart, should be top on the list right?

-As well as preparing others? (bringing others to hear Gospel)

**Theme: ...Until the Day Comes.**

**2. A letter of...** Instructions **(1 Tim 3:16-17)** "...in righteousness"

**V10** "so that" = So that Christians can put into practice what they learn!

"Sincere and without offense" = We want to avoid sin out of love for JC!

**(Malachi 3:1-2)** = who can endure His coming? What to do?

Focus on...

-What is excellent? – "superior to" everything else

-The Unity and Joy we have in Christ **(Eph 5:6-10)**

**V10b** = Our plans don't always happen...

= Memorial yesterday **(John 14:1-3)** Plan/prepare ahead in joy

**(Philippians 1:21) For to me, to live is Christ, and to die is gain.**

**Theme: ...Until the Day Comes.**

"Joy and Comfort" = word joy used in 15 different ways in Philippians!

-Even in the midst of troubles and sorrows!

**3. A letter of...** Hopefulness in:

**V11** How do you give glory and praise to God? Where does it start?

**V10a** = Focusing on the more excellent gifts **(Gal 5:22-23)**

The Love of the Savior is connected like dominos:

Love abounds = through study of His Word (in it we give thanks)

Love grows = understanding more and more our Savior's love for us

Love prepares = for the coming of Christ: for Christmas, for the end

Love bears fruit = by avoiding sinful behaviors, attitudes, lifestyles

Love rejoices = in ALL that we do to give glory to God

(Dominos) -H.S. is the power, founded on the Word, that makes all these work together!

**(Heb 10:24-25)** = stir up faith, hope, and love in one another in Christ

Test what is best = prepare by following Christ through Advent!

**Theme: ...Until the Day Comes.** These excellent things should be on all our lists for our hearts to be well prepared for the joy of Christmas!

**Amen.**

*This peace of God that passes all understanding will guard your hearts and minds in our risen Lord and Savior Jesus Christ! Amen.*

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Things to do List:

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- 
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- 

= How is there going to be enough time for everything, until the day?

**Theme: ...Until the Day Comes.**

Background/Purpose =

### 1. A letter of...

**V9** “may abound” =

- Love -
- Love grows =
- Love grows =
- =

Therefore =

What are we doing to grow and learn more?

=

-

= How to study? -

-

What is Advent? =

-

Things to do List? =

-As well as =

**Theme: ...Until the Day Comes.**

### 2. A letter of...

**V10** “so that” =

“Sincere and without offense” =

**(Malachi 3:1-2)** =

Focus on...

-

-

**V10b** =

=

**(Philippians 1:21)**

**Theme: ...Until the Day Comes.**

“Joy and Comfort” =

-

### 3. A letter of...

**V11** How do you give glory and praise to God? Where does it start?

**V10a** =

The Love of the Savior is connected like \_\_\_\_\_:

Love abounds =

Love grows =

Love prepares =

Love bears fruit =

Love rejoices =

(Dominos) =

**(Heb 10:24-25)** =

Test what is best =

**Theme: ...Until the Day Comes.** These excellent things should be on all our lists for our hearts to be well prepared for the joy of Christmas!

**Amen.**

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