

“Advent II”  
Isaiah 40:1-11, 2 Peter 3:8-15a, Mark 1:1-9  
December 7, 2008

It’s not Christmas yet! It is Advent. Advent is a time of preparation and a time of waiting! It is a lot of work to be prepared and once you are prepared, it is so hard to wait! Elizabeth’s house is all prepared for Christmas! Look at their beautiful Christmas tree! Wow! It is very tall, because the Mawakasunga’s live in a very tall house, because giraffes are very tall!

Elizabeth has a gift for her mother already, right here. It is a latch hook hot pad that she made at Girl Scouts. And she has a roll of Duct Tape for her father all ready too! Oh boy!

Now that she is prepared, Elizabeth decided to sit here and wait for Christmas. She has been here for over five minutes and she is already becoming impatient! “What’s taking so long?” Elizabeth said out loud. “I’m getting impatient!”

“What’s that you say?” said Mr. Mawakasunga as he entered the room with the crèche to place on the table.

“I’m all prepared and now I’m tired of waiting!” Elizabeth complained. And then raising her voice she added “How long is it before Christmas?”

“2 weeks and 4 days!” chuckled her father.

“Well, Pastor Ed talked about being prepared for Christmas. And I am!” Elizabeth retorted.

“Well now,” said her father. “This tree and gifts are good ways of being prepared for Christmas but I think that Pastor Ed was talking about ways we prepare for Jesus with our behavior.”



That is what today's lessons are about. How do we prepare for the coming of Jesus and what do we do while we are waiting. In Isaiah it says "Lift up your voice with strength." That does not mean to complain loudly. We should lift our voices in praise of God, like you do when you sing in church."

The lesson from Peter says we are to "lead lives of holiness and godliness" and "we are to be at peace, without spot or blemish". In other words, "You better be good!"

*"You better watch out! You better not cry! You better not pout I'm telling you why."* Except, this is NOT about being good so Santa Claus will bring you lots of toys. Santa Claus is NOT in the Bible!"

And finally, the lesson from Mark tells us that John the Baptist brought lots of people to Christ."

"Three ways to prepare for the coming of Jesus," said Mr. Mawakasunga. "Use your voice in praise of God, perform deeds of goodness and kindness, and invite friends to Sunday School and church with you."

"I always like talking to you Daddy! You help me understand stuff." THE END