Take-home note

Hope: stay awake for God's light · Mark 13:24–37; Isaiah 64:1–9

Today in Sunday school

Today was the first Sunday of Advent, the four weeks when the church gets ready for Christmas. Your child heard Jesus's short story about a doorkeeper who stayed awake, watching for the owner of the house to come home (Mark 13:24–37). We lit the first candle on the Advent wreath, the candle of hope. Hope means we know something good is coming, even before we can see it.

Talk about it

- What is the hardest thing you have ever waited for?
- What do you think the doorkeeper did to stay awake?
- What are you hoping for this Advent?

Try this at home

Put the paper Advent wreath your child made on the table. Each Sunday of Advent, take one flame out of the envelope and glue it on the next candle: hope, peace, joy, and love. If you light real candles at home, let a grown-up do the lighting.

Pray together

Dear God, thank you for the gift of hope. Help us watch for your light this Advent, and help us share it with others. Come, Lord Jesus! Amen.

Memory verse
"Watch, keep alert, and pray." (Mark 13:33)

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