

# CONVERSATION STARTERS

## SOUTHRIDGE COMMUNITY CHURCH

Advent 2025

Growing in the Dark

**EAT TOGETHER** | *Showing up regularly to share life and build relationships*

1. Growing up, what traditions have been meaningful for you in the season of Advent?

**PRAY TOGETHER** | *Joining in on conversations of life and faith*

1. HOPE – Where could you use hope right now? What feels dark? How might God be your source of hope? What hope might be growing in the dark in your life?
2. PEACE – When you hear the word peace, what comes to mind? When have you felt peace? How might you rest knowing God visits us and brings us peace? Does anything stick out to you from the quote from Our Lady of the underground?
3. JOY – Where do you sense God is inviting you to receive or notice joy (whether it's loud and bubbly joy or quiet and gentle)? How can we, like Mary, practice treasuring these things and pondering them in our hearts? This advent, how can you be a space for others to experience both their joy *and* sorrow?
4. LOVE – Where are you tempted to confuse 'light' for 'love'? How does the life of Jesus demonstrate true love to you? What would it look like for me to intentionally bring love into dark spaces this advent season?
5. Share with your group one big idea that you learned or impacted you that you can hold onto this week, this month?

**LOVE TOGETHER** | *Being real to care and make a difference*

1. How is hope growing in you this advent season? How can you share hope with others?
2. How is peace growing in you this advent season? How can you share peace with others?
3. How is joy growing in you this advent season? How can you share joy with others?
4. How is love growing in you this advent season? How can you share love with others?

### Resources:

- Song – Seasons – by Hillsong
- Book - Learning to Walk in the Dark by Barbara Brown Taylor
- Book - Who needs the Dark by Laura Allery