



SPX Small Groups

Life is Better Together

Special Delivery: Week 2 – December 6
2nd Sunday in Advent



- 1) Is your Advent season busier or less harried than last year?
- 2) Were there any action steps you talked about wanting to complete from last week's session? Did you do them?
- 3) Take a look at the video extra and discuss: If you want to feel the presence of God, where do you go? Why?
- 4) Fr. Mike mentioned that Isaiah's message for the Jewish people who had been in exile were words of comfort – that they did not need to be fearful of God's anger, because God would offer them mercy and love. Have you ever been fearful that God would be angry or disappointed in you? How did you move past that?
- 5) In this week's Gospel (Mk 1:1-8) people flock to the desert to hear John the Baptist "proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins."
 - a. Does that sound like a good day trip to you?
 - b. If not, why do you suppose people went? What were they looking for and do you think they found it?
 - c. If God is full of mercy and love, why is repentance necessary?
- 6) John the Baptist told people to "Prepare the way of the Lord, make straight his paths." Are there areas of your life where you have put detours in God's way?
- 7) Have you ever received a message from God from an unexpected person?
- 8) Fr. Mike talked about finding God in unexpected places, like desert experiences of disappointment, despair, rejection, and failure. Have you had any such moments, and what did God say to you in those moments?
- 9) We are almost at the halfway point of Advent. What actions do you still need to take to ready yourself spiritually to celebrate Christmas well?