



MEGAN DOBRASZ

Senior Associate Pastor, Green Lake



As an early morning outdoor exerciser, this time of year I find myself facing wind, lower temperatures, rain, and unending darkness. All of these make it harder to get out the door. I find myself longing most of all for the light. The other elements would be manageable if only it were light out; if only I could see what's in front of me. While this is tangibly and physically true on a daily basis, it's also metaphorically true for all other aspects of my life physically, emotionally, and spiritually. I want to be able to see where I'm going, what's coming toward me, where Christ is guiding me. But, as it is with this time of year and the lack of light, there are seasons that the longing to be able to see what's imminently approaching or even coming from a long way off is just not possible.

QUESTIONS

1. Where do you feel confident in what you can see ahead & where is there not much light right now?
2. Is there a burden that you'd like to give to Christ & in turn receive His rest?
3. Are there other promises of God that are sustaining you right now? Check out this [Identity Truths list](#) for ideas.

When it's hard or unclear to see what's ahead, I am encouraged by verses such as [Jeremiah 33: 12-16](#). This is just one of the many places in scripture where validation is given to the hard seasons of life—the dark seasons—while also bringing hope that darkness is not the final or only season. Just as Jeremiah gives beautiful hope-filled imagery that points to the Messiah, "... in all its towns there will again be pastures for shepherds to rest their flocks." - Jeremiah 33:12b, Jesus himself gives beautiful hope-filled imagery that he is the fulfillment and continuation of those promises: "Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest" Matthew 11:28.

When in seasons of dim light, may we feel seen by God and the history of Scripture as we lean into the Psalm of David: "Show me your ways, Lord, teach me your paths. Guide me in your truth and teach me, for you are God my Savior, and my hope is in you all day long." — Psalm 25:4-5

 BETHANY'S HOLIDAY PLAYLIST

Join us this Advent season for weekly devotional content!

