

Lesson 1
Introduction**REFLECTION GUIDE****Welcome**

We're so glad you're here! This guide is designed to help you engage more deeply with The Candler Foundry's on-demand content—whether you're learning solo, facilitating a small group, or joining a community conversation.

As you watch the lesson, take notes on key themes, ideas, and questions that stand out to you. Pause the video when needed to reflect, jot down insights, or revisit an important section. Stay attentive to how the content connects with both your personal faith journey and issues that matter to your community.

Questions

- Be honest! Do you usually skip over reading biblical genealogies? When we slow down and pay attention to what's actually there, we might be surprised at the interesting things we find! Practice with this exercise:
 - Read Matthew's genealogy of Jesus (Matt 1:2-16)
 - Read Luke's genealogy of Jesus (Luke 3:23-38)
 - What's different about them?
 - What might those differences tell us about the writers' purposes?
- What are you waiting for right now? This might mean thinking about what season of life you are in. What are the questions going through your mind as you wait?
- When we use the term "wait on" it means "to serve." How might thinking about waiting as service change your experience of it?
- Of all four of the Advent candles leading up to Christ (hope, peace, joy, and love), which one do you look forward to the most and why? Which one do you feel you need the most?

View our welcome video!