# DISCOVERY
## CHRISTIAN CHURCH

# December 5 and 8
# Steve Cuss

**PRIMARY SCRIPTURE:**

1Chr. 17:11
When your days are over and you go to be with your fathers, I will raise up your offspring to succeed you, one of your own sons, and I will establish his kingdom.

1Chr. 17:12
He is the one who will build a house for me, and I will establish his throne forever.

1Chr. 17:13
I will be his father, and he will be my son. I will never take my love away from him, as I took it away from your predecessor.

1Chr. 17:14
I will set him over my house and my kingdom forever; his throne will be established forever.

Dan. 11:31
His armed forces will rise up to desecrate the temple fortress and will abolish the daily sacrifice.
Then they will set up the abomination that causes desolation.

**DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:**

1) Where did you see God at work this week?

2) Advent is about expectation, anticipation, and preparation. Sometimes we do these from a place of great joy and excitement and sometimes from a place of pain. From what posture are you anticipating?

3) What helps you experience wonder? What will you do this week to increase your capacity to notice wonder?

4) Steve talked about two events in the 170 years before Jesus. The first was Antiochus Ephiphanes slaughtering a pig on the altar of the temple and dedicating the temple to Zeus. Daniel calls this the 'Abomination of Desolation.' What struck you about this story?

5) It shook the very heart of the faith of the Jews. Have you had an incident or event that shook your faith to the core? What happened? What helped?

6) The second event was Pompey strolling into the Holy of Holies declaring 'there is no image there.' Romans and all Ancient Near East cultures made images of their gods, but Jews were required to worship the invisible God. What is difficult about worshiping the invisible God? What are the benefits?

7) Genesis author says we are the image bearers of God. Where have you seen someone bear well the image of God in your life? (i.e., how have they reflected God's personality and character well?)