**Message Outline**

*The Gospel in the Grinch:*

*The More of Christmas*

**John 1**

**Intro:** Start of our Advent sermon series…

* Theme since summer about the Gospel…
* Grinch scenes and Christmas Scriptures…

*Maybe Christmas he thought doesn’t come from a store.*

*Maybe Christmas perhaps means a little bit more.*

* Heart transformation follows this realization!

**Read:** John 1:1-18

**Four on the MORE of Christmas…**

1) The More of I\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

* God gets us because He became us (v.14)...
* Jesus shows us God because He is God (v.18)...
* The mystery of the God-man…

2) The More of I\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

* The connection between light and life (v.4)…
* Lights of the season…

3) The More of O\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

* Christmas not built on fad or faze but on the forever (cf. v.1 and Gen.1:1)…
* Christmas will far out last your wish list!

4) The More of I\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

* The reasons some never discover the more of Christmas (v.10-11)…
* The need to receive/believe (v.12)…
* The family benefits (v.12-13)…

**Tips to Staying Focused This Christmas…**

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**1st Sunday of Advent:**

**HOPE**

**Reviewing Romans around the Wreath**

*22We know that the whole creation has been groaning as in the pains of childbirth right up to the present time. 23Not only so, but we ourselves, who have the firstfruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly as we wait eagerly for our adoption to sonship, the redemption of our bodies. 24For in this* ***hope*** *we were saved. But* ***hope*** *that is seen is no* ***hope*** *at all. Who* ***hopes*** *for what they already have? 25But if we* ***hope*** *for what we do not yet have, we wait for it patiently.*

*–Romans 8:22-25 NIV*

**MC900435452[1]**

Christian, we **HOPE** thru the present pain knowing what the present pain is producing. A day of new life is coming! Right now our task is to patiently “push thru” the “birthing pains.” That Child at Christmas reminds us that **HOPE** is worth it in the end!

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