

# A CHRISTMAS CONFESSION

Ben Orchard / Dec. 3, 2023 / 1 Timothy 3:16



*Week of Dec. 3, 2023*

The Meaning of \_\_\_\_\_

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1. Thinking back on this week's worship service, was there anything that caught your attention, challenged, or confused you?
2. Why does the Church celebrate Advent? Does your family have any special traditions for the Advent season?
3. This week's Advent theme is "hope." For what are you hopeful right now?
4. What potential benefits are there of having a "common confession" (vs 16) or other similar creed? What risk do they have, if any?
5. When someone confesses a belief, their actions ought to be aligned with that belief. Where do you see the Church's action out of alignment with the Gospel? What about in your own life?
6. It is likely that Paul is quoting a song in verse 16. What song sticks out in your mind as having a powerful effect on your faith, joy, sanctification, etc.? Why did it have that impact?
7. How does your understanding of this passage change knowing that the word for "mystery" (vs 16) does not mean something unknown, but rather something that was once unknown but is now revealed?
8. Based on your observations, what does Christmas mean for those who do not share the common confession of the good news of the Gospel? How can you use this passage in your interactions with unbelievers this Advent season?