

Week Two | Mighty God | 12.05-06.2020

Grow Deep Conversation Questions: Use these questions to help you process the message in your personal time of study or with your group. Time suggestions are based on a 90-minute group gathering.

Message Recap: Christmas can become a habit that we think we understand. Sometimes our need for traditions trumps what the tradition represents. Christmas is about Jesus. When Jesus came, He came **unto us** to be our: Wonderful Counselor, **Mighty God**, Everlasting Father, and Prince of Peace. What if we put down our expectations and experienced the Jesus that actually lived and changed everything?

>> Opening (2-3 minutes)

- Introductions this is especially important if this is your first meeting and if there are new members
- Housekeeping clarify expectations
 - Announcements: These are in your Community News email. Please read and communicate! Encourage participation!
 - Remind your group that this is a confidential meeting
 - Remember, there may be many thoughts and views. Please remain kind and respectful during conversations.
- Pray open your time together in prayer

>> Introduction (12 minutes)

- Ice-Breaker: What is something you look forward to every Christmas?
- Digging Deeper: How would you describe your heart entering the Christmas season this year?
- >> Observation | Read Isaiah 9:6; Luke 1:39-45

(12 minutes)

- What are your initial reactions to these passages? What do you find challenging? Are you encouraged by any of these verses? Why?
- >> Key Principle | Let go to make room.

(12 minutes)

- Knowing that God is working unto us, how can that change joy this season?
- What are some of the things that people hold onto that prevent them from experiencing Jesus as "Mighty God" and the joy of Christmas?
- >>> Mighty God | Reference Isaiah 9:6

(12 minutes)

- How has Jesus been a "Mighty God" in your life or someone you know? Why is it important to know Jesus as a "Mighty God?"
- **Better isn't Easier** | Reference Luke 1:39-40

(12 minutes)

- How are some ways that Jesus has made life better but not easier? How can we help others understand better isn't always easier?
- **Joy Looks Up** | Reference Luke 1:41-45

(12 minutes)

• What's holding you back from joy today? How can you choose it anyway?

\gg Next Steps and Prayer \mid

(15 minutes)

- How can you share joy with someone else this Christmas?
- What are some of the things that you have had to grieve the loss of this year? How might God still be moving in your life right now?
- Close by praying for each other to slow down this Advent season to spend some time anticipating and reflecting on the birth of Jesus.

