

Unto Us

Hope For Everyone

Week Four | Prince of Peace | 12.19-20.2020

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's the furthest you have traveled for Christmas?
- Digging Deeper: What unexpected challenges and setbacks did you face on your journey? How did you respond?

» Observation | Read Isaiah 9:6; Luke 2:1-7 (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 | Your challenges never change God's plans. (12 minutes)

- What are some of the challenges you are facing right now? Have you been able to see God moving in this season?

» Pressure Mounts | Reference Luke 2:1-3 (12 minutes)

- How did God use Mary and Joseph's faithfulness to fulfill prophecy?

» A New Birth Plan | Reference Luke 2:4-5 (12 minutes)

- In what ways did Mary and Joseph deal with the setbacks and challenges from their plans around how Jesus would have been born?
- How do you respond when your plans have to change?

» Hope is Born | Reference Luke 2:6-7 (12 minutes)

- How has God used a change or challenge to put you in the right place or space in order for His faithfulness to show up in even greater ways? How is he doing this right now?

» Next Steps and Prayer | (15 minutes)

- Jesus came as the Prince of Peace in a less than peaceful way. How can we experience His peace in the middle of the chaos around us?
- Close by praying for each other as we round the corner to Christmas to experience the peace that Jesus brings, even in 2020.