

Christmas

Hope for Everyone

Christmas Eve | Beautifully Broken | 12.23-24.2020

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 Immanuel - God with us - and He remains with us. 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 your sweetest Christmas memory?
- Digging Deeper: What are you most looking forward to this Christmas?

» Observation | Read Luke 2:1-20; Romans 6:23 (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 | What will your Christmas story be this year? (12 minutes)

- There's a lot that's been out of our control this year, it has revealed how little we were ever really in control. How do you typically respond when things are out of your control?
- What is something that is out of your control this Christmas? How are you handling this change?

» The Christmas Story | Reread Luke 2:1-20 (12 minutes)

- What is the significance of Joseph and Mary traveling from Galilee to Bethlehem?
- Jesus was not born in the typical way of a king. Why does it matter that He was not born in a palace to royalty?
- How can the first Christmas bring you or someone else hope, joy, or peace this Christmas?

» Christmas as an Adult | Reread Romans 6:23 (12 minutes)

- God has loved us unconditionally and gone out of His way to show us this inconceivable love. In what ways do we need to be careful to avoid becoming "entitled kids" that assume it was easy or free?
- If we want to experience a grown-up version of Christmas in all of the weight and pain of today, will we focus less on what we open up this Christmas and more on opening up this Christmas?

» Next Steps and Prayer | (15minutes)

- How will you let the presence of God be the present you need this Christmas?
- How will you carry Christmas into 2021?
- Close by praying for one another to pause and really remember who Jesus is, why He came, and what He did for us.