



Christmas Eve | Love - Rudolph | 12.22-24.2019

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: It was out of God's love for us that He sent His One and Only Son, from heaven to earth, as One who was fully God and fully human to live with the people, showing us how to live, how to love, and how to follow God. Although we celebrate the birth of Immanuel (God With Us), it is only because of His death and resurrection that His birth is an extraordinary act of love, remembered 2000 years later.

» 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 gift were you most looking forward to giving this year? What made it so special?
- Digging Deeper: How do you think our culture would define love? How is this different than how you think Jesus defines it?

» Observation | Read John 1:9-18 (12 minutes)

- What are your initial reactions to this passage? What do you find challenging? Are you encouraged by any of these verses? Why?

» Key Principle | Jesus became like us because He liked us. (12 minutes)

- God loves you and He likes you! Why is that important to understand?
- Jesus was able to look beyond what is obvious to most. Who needs you to see beyond the obvious? What would that require of you?

» Like Us | Reread John 1:9-14 (12 minutes)

- In what ways was not recognized as the Son of God? Why was that so? How is humanity still unable to recognize Jesus? What role should Christians play in this?
- Why is it dangerous to think of Jesus as only God and not also fully human? What is the danger of seeing Him as a man, but not God?

» Loves Us | Reread John 1:15-18 (12 minutes)

- Why do you think love is such a defining mark of the Christian? Do we tend to think of love as the primary mark of the Christian life? If not, what do we think of as that mark? Why?
- How is the Christmas story a demonstration of God's love for you?

» Closing and Prayer | (15minutes)

- What are some tangible expressions of God's love you might practice this week: At your workplace? In your home? With your friends?
- Trying to find friends requires us to take a risk. Where do you need to take a risk? What are you hoping people will accept about you?
- Close by praying for one another to feel loved and extend love to others this Christmas.