

## 4 Thoughts That Can Still Change the World Part 3: Give More

Romans 8:31-32, Isaiah 7:14, 9:6, John 3:16, 2 Corinthians 9:15

- 1. What was most memorable, challenging, or encouraging from the message this week?
- 2. The infamous fruitcake, the sweater you'll never wear, the gift card to a store you never shop at, we've all been given impersonal gifts. Without naming names, what's the most impersonal gift you've been given?
- 3. Now let's get really honest, what's the most impersonal gift you've ever given?
- 4. Does the story of St. Nicholas still have meaning for us today? Were you familiar with his story as a child? How might you use his story to bring the gift-giving tradition back to the story of Jesus?
- 5. Read Matthew 1:18-23 and Isaiah 7:14. How can you give the gift of God's presence to others? Think of some specific ideas for giving relationally.
- 6. What part of giving relational, costly gifts excites you most? Which part is the biggest challenge for you? Is there any part of it that feels risky?
- 7. Visit www.adventconspiracy.org and read some of the stories there. Are there any ideas that seemed to fit you? Did reading other people's approach to gift-giving stir up any thoughts for the gifts you'll give this year?

## **MOVING FORWARD**

God came to us in flesh and blood. This is what the Incarnation means. All the prophecies, all the promises, came down to this one very relational gift. The Father gave the most personal gift ever —his Son. If the Incarnation is at the heart of the Christmas story, it is at the heart of our Christmas celebration.

## **CHANGING YOUR MIND**

For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life.

John 3:16