



WEEK #3 GIVE MORE

#### BIG IDEA

This Christmas, let us conspire to Give More and bless the ones we love.

#### SCRIPTURE

*1 In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. 2 He was with God in the beginning. 3 Through him all things were made; without him nothing was made that has been made. 4 In him was life, and that life was the light of all mankind. 5 The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome[a] it. 6 There was a man sent from God whose name was John. 7 He came as a witness to testify concerning that light, so that through him all might believe. 8 He himself was not the light; he came only as a witness to the light. 9 The true light that gives light to everyone was coming into the world. 10 He was in the world, and though the world was made through him, the world did not recognize him. 11 He came to that which was his own, but his own did not receive him. 12 Yet to all who did receive him, to those who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God— 13 children born not of natural descent, nor of human decision or a husband's will, but born of God. 14 The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us. We have seen his glory, the glory of the one and only Son, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth. 15 (John testified concerning him. He cried out, saying, "This is the one I spoke about when I said, 'He who comes after me has surpassed me because he was before me.'") 16 Out of his fullness we have all received grace in place of grace already given. 17 For the law was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ. 18 No one has ever seen God, but the one and only Son, who is himself God and is in closest relationship with the Father, has made him known. **John 1:1-18***

*<sup>5</sup> In your relationships with one another, have the same mindset as Christ Jesus: <sup>6</sup> Who, being in very nature God, did not consider equality with God something to be used to his own advantage; <sup>7</sup> rather, he made himself nothing by taking the very nature of a servant, being made in human likeness. <sup>8</sup> And being found in appearance as a man, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to death—even death on a cross! <sup>9</sup> Therefore God exalted him to the highest place and gave him the name that is above every name, <sup>10</sup> that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, <sup>11</sup> and every tongue acknowledge that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.*

**Philippians 2:5-11**

#### ICEBREAKER

What was the most memorable gift you received last year for Christmas?

#### BIBLE DISCUSSION

Read John 1:1-18, what struck you or stood out to you?

What are the different ways that Jesus was a gift to us?

Reread verses 15 – 18.

How are we now gifted to give life and love in turn by Jesus' life and presence for others?

#### LIFE APPLICATION

God's gift to us was personal, relational, and pricey. What kind of gift of presence could you give

Are you in danger of losing Christmas to the pressures of family, friends, or work?

What are some ways you can keep Christmas about Jesus?

#### NEXT STEPS | CHALLENGES FOR THIS WEEK

As you think about who you want to share presence with this week, read Philippians 2:5-11 and reflect on it. In ways did Jesus model servant-hood? Where could this be necessary this Christmas?



#### LEADERS GUIDE Week #3 Give More

#### BIBLE DISCUSSION

Use these questions as a focus on deepening their understanding of scripture.) Have the group read John 1:15 -18 in different translations (the Message is very helpful here) to see the emphasis of giving in these passages. Those verses will help bring out the big idea.

#### LIFE APPLICATION QUESTIONS

You know your group best so use these questions as a guide. Be honest, but don't pressure anyone to share who isn't ready.)

#### NEXT STEPS/CHALLENGES FOR THIS WEEK

Dig deep here and help them see that each of us are called to serve. Christmas can be a very lonely time for many people in our communities. We can help alleviate that loneliness.