

The Christmas Gap
“The Good News Gap”
Luke 2:10

1. The Christmas Gap is the time between what was **announced** at Christmas and what was **experienced** in people’s lives.

- a. Good news that brings great **joy**
- b. Our **Savior** is here
- c. The **Messiah** has come
- d. **Peace** is available

2. The **Good News** Gap is the time between the announcement of the good news and when people start experiencing the good news.

- a. Your God is here to **rescue**
- b. A sovereign king is born to **rule**
- c. Jesus Christ has come to **redeem**
- d. Jesus invites you into **relationship**

3. The Good News Gap is **closed** in our life as we walk in a **discipleship** relationship with Jesus.

- a. **Repent** of your sin
- b. **Believe** the good news
- c. **Follow** Jesus as his disciple

The **cross** is where we enter into a life-changing _____ with Jesus.

LifeGroup Questions: Applying the Teaching to Our Life

1. We defined a gap as “an unfilled space or interval; a break in continuity.” What are some of the kinds of gaps you have had in your life? If possible, see if each person in the group can share. This might take some time.
2. Review the definition of “The Christmas Gap” in point 1. How has the Christmas Gap played out in your life?
3. Pastor Jim talked about the “gap” in the preaching of the Gospel that leaves out the necessity of a discipleship relationship with Jesus. Why is this “version of the Gospel” so damaging?
4. “People can put too much emphasis on what happens at ‘conversion’ but not enough on what can happen in ‘discipleship.’” What do you think about this statement?
5. Read the stories of Jesus’ birth in the Gospels this week and see how many other “Christmas Gaps” (as defined in point 1) you can find.

Core CHRISTlike Characteristic: Heart of Worship/Loving God