

Christmas:

A Portrait of the Messiah

It's the most wonderful time of the year . . .

But it can also be one of the busiest! Anticipating that many groups will not have their “regular” meetings during the holidays, here are a few broad discussion starters for use in your group as you see fit and as you might have need.

Reflecting on the coming of Jesus into our world

What do you think changed most, in our world, with the birth of Jesus? Why?

How do you purposefully celebrate Jesus’ entrance into the world as part of your Christmas festivities?

Reflecting on Isaiah 9:1-7 (our key text for this year’s Christmas messages)

Which Old Testament prophecies about the “promised Messiah” do you recall? What, if anything, do those prophecies add to your sense of celebration around Christmas?

Isaiah identifies the Messiah (Jesus!) with four names or titles: Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. Which of those are clearest to you? Which of those would you like to know more about? Why?

Of those titles used by Isaiah in 9:6-7, which most clearly identifies the way you relate to Jesus? Why?

Of those titles used by Isaiah in 9:6-7, which do you think might identify some overlooked aspect of Jesus’ ministry to you that you might want to better appreciate and enjoy? Why?

Think about the songs you sing and the way you celebrate Christmas. How are these titles or names reflected in your celebration?

What could we do to more fully embrace this marvelous prophetic Christmas message of Isaiah into our holiday celebrations?



Small Group Discussion Ideas
Christmas Series 2010

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