

SMALL GROUP QUESTIONS

The Promise (part 1)

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

We pray that everyone has a blessed and Merry Christmas. Never forget the reason for the season!

MEMORY VERSE

And Mary said, "Behold, the bond-slave of the Lord; may it be done to me according to your word." - Luke 1: 38(NASB)

SMALL GROUP QUESTIONS – THE PROMISE (PART 1)

GETTING STARTED

Christmas time is here! Go around and share what your plans are for Christmas, and tell any odd traditions your family has.

DIGGING DEEPER

1. Christmas is known as "the most wonderful time of the year". Why do you think that is? Both Christians and non-Christians feel this way, so what is it about this time that makes it so special?
2. Our culture has created many ideas and themes that have nothing to do with the true meaning of Christmas, yet they get all of the attention. They have now become the "heart" of Christmas for most people. Can you explain what some of these things are, and how/why they have gained the popularity they have?
3. The true heart of Christmas has to do with love, grace, mercy, and sacrifice. Can you explain why?
4. Christmas represents the birth of Jesus Christ, which was the beginning of God's plan for salvation for us all. It was the beginning of His mercy on us, the beginning of His grace on us, and the beginning of Him sacrificing His Son to pay for our sins. In light of that, how do you celebrate Christmas? Do you include Jesus in any of your activities?
5. It is very easy to forget about Jesus with all of the distractions that the Christmas season can have. What are some ways you can celebrate Jesus' birth on Christmas?

6. Most people buy gifts for their family and friends on Christmas. Do you think it is connected at all with the heart of Christmas? Why or why not?
7. When Jesus was born, God gave us the greatest gift of all; an opportunity to have our sins paid for. Why would someone reject that gift? It seems foolish, but many do. Share your thoughts.
8. Read Luke 1:38. In order for Jesus to be born of a virgin, a virgin had to be willing to go through the whole pregnancy and birthing process. This was far from an easy thing. When the angel explains this to Mary, Luke 1:38 has her reaction. What was it? Would you have the same attitude? Why or why not?
9. Mary's response was one of humility and obedience. Though God's plan had plenty of pain and sacrifice involved, she was willing to do it. How can we have the same kind of heart?
10. One way to develop obedient and humble hearts is to obey God in everything; both in good and bad times. Share any other ways that we can have God use of like He did Mary.

BRINGING IT HOME

***“YOU WILL HAVE JOY AND GLADNESS, AND MANY WILL REJOICE AT HIS BIRTH.” –
LUKE 1: 14 (NASB)***

1. Christmas is a celebration of Jesus' birth. This Christmas, wherever you are, make it a point to share or remind those you are with that Jesus was born to save us from our sins.
2. Have a Merry CHRISTmas!!!