

# **Growth Group Questions**

*Christmas Weekend, December 24-25th, 2023*

## **Introduction**

Share your favorite Christmas traditions, whether “churchy” or not. What is the benefit of ritual and habit and why is there value in repeating things regularly?

## **Into the Word** – Genesis 3:8-15 (Christmas Eve service)

1. What emotions were Adam and Eve feeling for the first time as they heard God approaching them in the Garden?
2. God could have come to Adam and Eve with righteous judgment. And he did reveal to them the consequences of their actions. We call verse 15 the “protevangelion”, or “first gospel.” What promise does God make in this verse, and when was that promised fulfilled?

## **Into the Word** – Micah 5:2-5a (Christmas Eve service)

3. We tend to think of this verse as simply telling us where Jesus would be born, but there’s so much more to it. What’s the connection to Judah? What else does this verse tell us about the Savior? When will it be fully accomplished?

## **Into the Word** – Luke 1:26-38 & Matthew 1:18-25 (Christmas Eve)

4. What do Mary and Joseph’s acceptance of the angel’s messages tell us about them?

## **Into the Word** – Luke 2:1-20 (Christmas Eve Service)

5. What do you learn about Jesus AND about you from each of the people in the Christmas account?
  - Angels praising
  - Shepherds searching
  - Mary pondering

## **Into the Word** – Galatians 4:4-7

6. We can’t understand *how* the miracle of the incarnation (God becoming man) works. We *can* understand why it was necessary. What does it mean that Jesus had to be man be under the law, and why is that important? (Remember he came to be our substitute.)
7. What is the difference between a son and a slave in the following areas?
  - Prestige
  - Power
  - Benefit

## **Into the Word** – John 1:1-18

8. How does John emphasize Jesus’ divine nature in these opening verses of his Gospel? (This will be an important theme throughout the Gospel of John.)
9. It shouldn’t surprise us when we are rejected by the world for being Christians – it rejected him first! How does verse 11 show that to be all the more tragic? And how does verse 12 make God’s grace all the more clear?

## **Closing Prayer**

Savior Jesus, you came into the world as promised to deliver us from death, sin, and Satan. You took on human flesh that you might be our perfect substitute and earn a righteousness you could give to us as our own. Bless me in this Christmas season to renew my joy in your perfect life lived for me. To you be all the glory. Amen.