

CHRISTMAS LIGHTS

DECEMBER 16, 2020

Week 3 of a 3-week series
about Christmas

BOTTOM LINE

We can glorify God by sharing
stories of “God with us.”

SCRIPTURE

*The shepherds went back to
their flocks, glorifying and
praising God for all they had
heard and seen. It was just as
the angel had told them.*

-Luke 2:20 NIV

GOAL OF SMALL GROUP

To encourage students to
share stories of how they
experience “God with us” in
their lives.

>> CHRISTMAS DISCUSSION QUESTIONS FOR ALL AGES!

- How have you experienced “God with us” in your life?
- What’s the best – or worst – Christmas present you’ve ever received?
- Describe a Christmas present you wanted badly as a kid, but never received.
- Name something about Christmas that most people like, but you dislike.
- What holiday movie or special have you watched the most?
- Who is the toughest person to shop for on your Christmas gift list?
- What one thing are you most grateful for this holiday season?
- Share one vivid Christmas memory, good or bad.
- If you could travel anywhere for Christmas, where would you go?
- What’s your least favorite task on your Christmas to-do list?
- Would you rather have three feet of snow for Christmas, or no snow at all?
- What character from the biblical Christmas story do you most relate to?
- If you could have a gift card to any store, which store would you choose?
- What’s your favorite character from a Christmas-themed movie, book, or TV special?
- What’s the best gift you’ve ever given someone?
- Name three words that best describe Christmas for you.
- The true meaning of Christmas is [fill in the blank].
- What outdoor winter activity do you love?
- Which holiday would you add to the calendar and which holiday would you subtract?
- If you could design your own ugly Christmas sweater, what would it look like?
- If you could buy a present for a famous person, who would you choose and what would you get them?
- What is the weirdest Christmas tradition your family has?
- What is your favorite Christmas cookie?
- Name a Christmas song that is for sure on your party play list.
- What is a Christmas song that makes you cringe?
- Share about a memorable Christmas service you have attended or live-action Christmas play/concert you have seen or participated in.
- If you could give your parents any gift, what would it be?
- Name a favorite family Christmas ornament and why it is special.
- What is your favorite way to serve others during the holidays?
- What skill would you love to learn, so you could make presents for friends/family?
- Finish this thought, “It wouldn’t be Christmas without [fill in the blank].”
- Share a memorable Christmas gift-opening moment from your childhood.
- What kind of holiday shopper are you: Black Friday? Christmas Eve? Yearlong hoarder? Not at all?
- If you could be a character in a holiday movie, who would you be and why?

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>> DURING GROUP

Create meaningful conversations. Adjust the questions as needed and ask thoughtful follow-up questions as the conversation unfolds. Don't feel like you need to answer every question.

DISCUSS THIS:

- What do you appreciate most about being a member of the family of God?
- What group that you belong to feels most welcoming? Specifically, what about it makes you feel welcomed?
- What could you do, or what could others do for you, to help you feel more welcomed/included/involved in the family of God?
- Share about a time when you felt especially close to God.
- Does the Christmas season make you feel closer to God? Why or why not?
- Has anybody, before tonight, ever shared their faith journey story with you? If so, what do you remember most about their story? Was there one big “God moment” or lots of smaller “God moments?”
- Have you ever been on a “journey” that you couldn’t wait to tell people about when you returned? What details of the journey were you most excited to share?
- From Brooke’s journey story: “Mistakes are one of the biggest stepping stones in life.” Share about a mistake you made and what you learned from it.
- Charlotte shared her favorite Bible verse: “The Lord will fight for you, and you have only to be silent.” (Exodus 14:14) Have you ever been in a situation where you felt like God was fighting for you? Share your story.
- From Josh’s journey story: “In order to continue my journey through Christ, I will use the tools God has given me.” What tools do you use along your journey of faith? Do you have a favorite scripture passage that reminds you that God is with you?
- From Kate’s message: “Being stuck at home during covid, I learned to enjoy being alone. I grew much closer to God and I became more familiar with the Bible.” What have you learned about yourself during 2020? How has 2020 impacted your relationship with God and others? Have you accomplished a goal that you probably wouldn’t have in a “normal” year?
- Discuss this lyric from Lauren Daigle’s song “Light of the World”: “For all who wait, for all who hunger, for all who’ve prayed, for all who wonder. Behold your King. Behold Messiah. Emmanuel.” Which of the four types of people listed do you relate to the most this Christmas? Why? Which of the four names for Jesus (including Light of the World) are you most needing this year? Why?
- How does sharing stories of “God with us” bring glory to God? What are some other ways you can bring glory to God?