

EXPERIENCE LIFE

Big Idea

During the season of Christmas, rereading the “story of Christmas” stirs memories and provides opportunities for God to reveal something new to our hearts and opens our eyes to see His truths. Matthew 1: 18-23 tells the beginning of the Christmas story; yet, verse 20 opens a truth to embrace in all seasons. “Now all this was done, that it might be fulfilled which was spoken of the Lord by the prophet...” These simple words remind us of four truths about our relationship with God: 1) God has not forgotten us! From the very beginning of time, God has been thinking of each person as a masterpiece. 2) God has a promise for us! God has many promises and He keeps all of them. 3) God has a plan for us! God is behind the tapestry of life intricately and strategically weaving the threads—including our headaches, heartaches, struggles, and challenges—into a masterpiece. 4) God has a purpose for us! He simply wants to make a difference in and through our lives. Recognizing these truths in this and every season of life is a choice. Make a conscious choice to see Christ in CHRISTmas. He is there, waiting for us to see Him.

Discussion Questions

- During the Christmas Season, what do you see that reminds you of Christ?
- In what ways do you recognize the gift of Christ in your life?
- How might you use the four truths to focus on seeing Christ in Christmas?
- To what extent and in what ways can you help others see Christ in this season?

Prayer Focus

Thank God for who He is, for his gift of Christ, and for the way Christ embodies God’s faithfulness, promises, plans, and purposes. Ask God to provide opportunities for you to influence others for His Kingdom. Present your open heart, mind, hands, feet, ears, and eyes to receive the four truths.

Next Step

As you meet with family, friends, and strangers during this Christmas season, be in constant prayer about how you can influence them for Christ. Find one way to serve one person each day, knowing that God will be guiding and providing for you and them along the way.

Leader Tip

Encourage others to build their Christmastime activities around the four truths. Encourage group members to keep giving hope, thinking about building a legacy, and being in the serve mode through the season of Christmas.