



# Christmas

THE PATH TO GRACE



- Anticipation -

## Ice-Breakers:

- How did you deal with the anticipation of Christmas as a child? Did you ever figure out your presents beforehand? Tell the story.

## Discussion:

1. Read Genesis 12:1-3. In what ways does God's promise to Abraham change our view of the Christmas story?
2. Do you find it difficult to believe the prophecies of Jesus birth, life, and resurrection? Why or why not?

Read Isaiah 9:1-7

3. What does each title - "Wonderful Counselor," "Mighty God," "Everlasting Father," and "Prince of Peace" - tell us about the nature of the child?
4. How do these titles point to Jesus Christ as the fulfillment of this prophecy?

Read Isaiah 53.

5. When celebrating the birth of Jesus do you think about his life and death as well?
6. Verse 6. Do you see yourself included in the phrase... "All of us like sheep have gone astray?" Explain.
7. Review God's mercy and grace shown throughout this passage. What should be our response? Pick out at least one circumstance where you want more of God's grace in you.

Read John 8:31-36, Matthew 6:25-33, John 10:10

8. God's gift of Jesus encompasses more than just salvation. What do you need more of in your life that God is offering through a relationship with Him? (examples given in the sermon... Freedom, freedom from worry, burden-free living, freedom from addictions, abundant life)
9. What other gifts has God given you through your relationship with him?

## Application:

- What can you do this season to help others focus on the true meaning of Christmas?