



## The Good News For and Through the Church

Icebreaker: What is a Christmas tradition that you insist on every year?

### The Good News in 4 Phrases

#### 1. God with us.

**Read together:** Matthew 1:23 (NIV), Isaiah 14:7 (NIV), John 1:14 (ESV), Hebrews 1:3 (ESV), John 3:16-17 (ESV)

**Discuss:**

Jim Irwin was the 8<sup>th</sup> man to walk on the moon in 1971. He saw the earth coming up over the Moon's horizon. He thought it was the greatest day in human history and told God so. God responded that while that was a great day, the GREATEST day was not when a human walked on the moon, but rather, when God made himself man and walked on Earth. Talk about how that impacts you.

God actually wants to be with you. What thoughts come to mind when you hear that declaration?

*"He who was the Son of God became the Son of man, that we who are sons of men have the promise that we can become sons of God."*

- Pastor David Cook

#### 2. God for us.

**Read Together:** Luke 19:10 (ESV), Titus 2:14 (NIV), 1 Timothy 1:15 (ESV), John 10:18 (NIV)

**Discuss:**

God is for you! What does that mean in your current situation?

God came to be WITH us, so that we could experience that He is FOR us!! What stands in the way or you believing that God is FOR you?

#### 3. God in us.

**Read Together:** 2 Corinthians 1:22 (NIV), Colossians 1:26-27 (NIV), 1 Corinthians 6:19 (NIV)

**Discuss:**

God dwells in us to give us power to do what we cannot do on our own. What are you asking God to empower you to do?

God is IN us. What are we doing with that?

Jesus was born in a barn...by design. If he could be born in that environment, then He could live in this mess of what our lives look like. He is not embarrassed of our mess. He is willing to dwell among us to know us and for us to know him!! What do you think Jesus wants to do with your mess?

#### **4. Us with God.**

**Read Together:** Revelation 21:1-4 (ESV), Revelation 22:20 (ESV)

**Discuss:**

We can anticipate the return of Christ. What are you most looking forward to regarding the second coming?

For 6,000 years, Satan has been corrupting everything that God intended to be good. There is coming a time that there will be a last death. What does that do to your heart? Do you believe it?

Live for that which will remain, not that which will pass away. What things do you think God would have you eliminate, and what needs to be prioritized in your life?

**Prayer:**

Father, please remind us that you ARE coming soon!! Help us to believe the prophecies and be faithful with the small window of time that we have left to share you with others!! Give us the hope that you intend us to have and help us to be faithful to the end.

In the name of Jesus! Amen!