

FOR ALL PEOPLE // Week 2

Discussion Guide



SERIES OVERVIEW

Christmas is the story of God coming to earth to live among his people... all people. He came for the fearful, the shamed & guilty...He came for ALL people.

BIG IDEA

If your life has been disrupted, you feel alone, or you feel shamed—God meets you in all three with His love and grace. Jesus was born from sinners, for sinners.

CONNECT

Begin with some light conversation or a fun *icebreaker question* to check in with everyone.

- Do you have a favorite Christmas tradition that you've carried from childhood (*or a long time ago*) into adulthood? Share it with the group.

DISCUSS

- What stood out to you most about the message from the weekend?
- Is there a specific part of the Christmas story—the birth of Jesus—that has become white noise to you? After listening to the message, is there a part of the story that came alive in a new way or brought on new meaning for you?

READ [LUKE 1:26-34](#)

- This passage tells us that Mary was, '*greatly troubled.*' What emotions do you think she was feeling and why do you think she felt that way?

READ [MATTHEW 1:18-19](#)

- This passage provides some insight to the emotions that Joseph may have been wrestling with. What emotions do you think he was processing and why do you think she felt that way? How would you feel if you were in his shoes?
- In light of the previous passages, it's safe to say that Mary & Joseph both experienced lives that were disrupted and, as a result, they experienced some loneliness & shame. However, God uses those who are willing to have their lives & their plans interrupted for His purposes.
 - Have you ever experienced a "Holy interruption" in your life that brought you closer to Jesus? If you feel comfortable, briefly share with the group.
- Often, when we feel lonely or ashamed, we have a tendency to shut God out. What next right step might Jesus be challenging you to do—to grow closer to him—in those seasons of our lives?

PRAY

This week, make it your prayer focus for Jesus to reveal to you any specific areas and/or seasons of your life when you tend to shut God out. Pray that God would raise your awareness during those times so that he can make His purposes for you more clear.