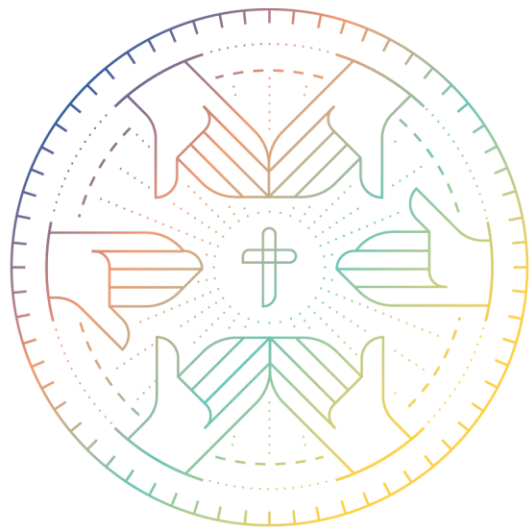


Group Life.

WE ARE BETTER TOGETHER



ICEBREAKER (10 MINUTES)

What does Christmas mean to you? Use one word to describe it.

INTRODUCTION (5-10 MINUTES)

In week one, we looked at God's promise through the story of Adam and Eve. We saw how, through the fall of man, God promised a coming savior. In week two, we looked at Abraham and his willingness to offer his son Isaac as a sacrifice to God of what trusting God looks like while foreshadowing the sacrifice of Jesus that takes our place. In week three, we looked at the genealogy of Jesus through David and saw the differences between the first advent and the second advent. In week four, we looked at the importance of one's name, what the name of Jesus means, and how it speaks to God's promises throughout time.

INTO THE WORD (25 MINUTES)

1. Read 2 Corinthians 11:3, Revelation 12:9, John 8:44, Matthew 4:1-11, Galatians 4:8 and 1 John 3:8. The devil has been sinning from the beginning, he is the father of lies, a thief, a destroyer and a murderer. Can you think of a few ways we might be led astray in our relationship with Jesus by the enemy?
2. Read Hebrews 11: 17-19 and Romans 4:3,17. What do you think strengthened Abraham's resolve to trust God and follow His instructions to sacrifice Isaac even when it didn't make sense?
3. Read 1 Chronicles 17:11-14, Daniel 2:44, and Matthew 6:33. We see that the Kingdom of God is:
 - Where brokenness doesn't exclude us
 - Where we make sense of life
 - Where we can never say that God doesn't understand usWhat sticks out to you about the Kingdom of God?

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4. Read Matthew 1:21, 2 Corinthians 5:18-20, and Romans 16:20. Jesus's name means Jehovah is salvation. We see that His name was precisely who He was because he:
 - Rescues us from sin and death.
 - Restores our relationship with God.
 - Provides love that lasts forever.
 - Defeats evil.Which of these attributes sticks out to you?

APPLICATION (25 MINUTES)

1. Read Genesis 3:1-15, 21. The ways in which God always keeps His promises to us include rescuing us, redeeming us, and crushing the enemy, among many others. What does it mean to stand on the promises of God each day?
2. Re-Read Matthew, chapter 1. Can you share what it looks like in your own life to experience God keeping His promise to love us with a perfect love that lasts forever (Jeremiah 31:3)? How has He removed what's heavy in your daily life? What desires or longings do you feel the Lord has placed on your heart and has then fulfilled for you?

PRAYER (10 MINUTES)

Dear Heavenly Father, thank you so much for being a promise keeper. As we celebrate your birth, may we be reminded of how you continue to keep your promises in our lives. In Jesus' name, we pray. Amen.