

WHO NEEDS CHRISTMAS



PART 1: The World

INTRODUCTION

The Christmas story didn't begin with shepherds watching over their flocks, wise men following a star, and a young couple that couldn't find a place to have their baby. It began much earlier than that, and it was more epic than anyone could have imagined.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. How do you feel heading into this Christmas season? Is this a positive or negative time for you?
2. Do you find it difficult to believe the details of the Christmas story? Why or why not?
3. Talk about a time when God seemed silent or distant in your life. What happened? What did that experience do for your faith?
4. Read Genesis 12:1-3. In what ways does God's promise to Abraham change your view of the Christmas story?
5. Read Isaiah 49:6. What does this verse tell you about God's character?
6. What can you do this season to focus on the meaning of the Christmas story to our culture and in your life? How can this group help you?

MOVING FORWARD

The Christmas story didn't begin with Joseph and Mary in a manger. It began with God making an unbelievable, incoherent, and impossible promise to a man named Abraham. That promise carried through the entire history of ancient Israel and beyond.

CHANGING YOUR MIND

"My name will be great among the nations, from where the sun rises to where it sets. In every place incense and pure offerings will be brought to me, because my name will be great among the nations," says the Lord Almighty.

Malachi 1:11