

THE POLARIZER

Guest Speaker: Dr. Kent Edwards

New Story
CHURCH | LA

SMALL GROUP QUESTIONS

The Polarizer (Matthew 1:18-2:23)

Dr. Kent Edwards

- 1) **Icebreaker:** Share about an important person that you met in your life. How did you feel about meeting this person and what was your reaction?
- 2) In today's sermon, Mary & Joseph's life was upended by the news that Mary was to become pregnant. If you are (or might be) a parent, in what ways did (or might) the arrival of a child or children change your life?
- 3) Look at the extreme responses to Jesus' birth:
 - How did Joseph respond when the Angel revealed his child's divine identity? (Matt.1:19-25)
 - How did the Magi respond when they understood Jesus' divine identity? (Matt. 2:1-12)
 - How did King Herod respond when he understood Jesus' divine identity? (Matt. 2:16-20)
- 4) How would you respond to someone who thought Jesus was simply a great person (e.g., philosopher, moral example, etc.)? Share about someone that you know who shares a different view from you on who Jesus is.
- 5) The preacher asked the question: "What will you do with Jesus?" What is your own personal response to this question?
- 6) Who do you know that needs to answer that question? Pray for them and ask God to give you the opportunity to help them.
- 7) As you close your time, read the brief poem below by Simon Jenkins. Point out anything that stands out to you from the poem.

Like the landlord becoming your tenant
Like your managing director up before you for an interview
Like Beethoven lining up for a ticket to his own concert
Like a principal having to sit in the corner
Like a good architect living in a slum designed by a rival
Like Picasso painting by numbers
God lived among us