

Focus Simplified (John 1:9-14)

Simple Christmas Series

Discussion Questions

OPENING

- Have you ever had a moment where you realized afterward that you “missed the moment” because you were distracted—especially by technology? Share it with us.
- When you think about the holiday season, do you tend to feel present and engaged, or rushed and distracted? Why?
- What differences have you noticed between people who attend something versus people who are truly present? What signs do you look for?

GETTING INTO THE BIBLE

Read John 1:9-13

- According to John, who is the “true light,” and what does He do for everyone (v. 9)?
- What responses do people have to Jesus in this passage?
- What is promised to those who “receive” and “believe” in Jesus’ name (v. 12)?
- What distractions kept “his own people” from recognizing Jesus?

Read John 1:14

- What does it mean that “the Word became flesh and dwelt among us”?
- How does John describe what he and others experienced of Jesus?
- How does Jesus’ incarnation shape how Christians should engage others, especially during Advent?

APPLICATION

- Where do you notice yourself slipping into “attendance mode” in relationships?
- Who is God calling you to be present with this season?
- Which digital distractions most commonly pull your attention away from others?
- What specific boundary or habit could you practice this week to guard your attention?
- How can your group help each other live this out during the Christmas season?
- What practices help you slow down and pay attention to God during Advent?

GOSPEL IDENTITIES / GROWTH GRID

- Which Gospel identity does this message most highlight: *family*, *citizen*, or *missionary*?
- How does living as a child of God (John 1:12) empower you to give others the “present of your presence”?