

HIStory Pt.1 HIStory of Hope

LifeGroup Discussion Guide

for the week of 12/5/20

CONNECTION

[1] What are your hopes for this Christmas and the coming New Year?

OBSERVATION & INTERPRETATION

- [2] Read Matthew 2:1-6. What kind of world was Jesus born into? How is it alike or different than the world we live in? How does the coming of Jesus bring us hope for today?
- [3] If Jesus had many "less than perfect" people in his genealogy (Matthew 1:1-6) and he came as the King of Kings and Lord of Lords, what does that say about God's grace towards our imperfections? How does His Story change our story (see Romans 4:7-8 and Galatians 4:4-5)?

APPLICATION

- [4] John the Baptist declared in Matthew 3:2 (NKJV) "Repent, for the Kingdom of Heaven is at hand." What did he mean by that? What were the signs that God's Kingdom was breaking through to the world's kingdoms (see Matthew 4:23)?
- [5] The first coming of Jesus brought the Kingdom of God to earth, what are some aspects of Jesus' second coming (see Isiah 9:7)? How does this influence your view of the future?
- [6] If we are in Christ we are agents of the Kingdom of God and to be actively carrying out His mission on the earth until He comes again. What does this statement mean to you? How can you practically carry out God's plans as a representative of His Kingdom?

REFLECTION

[7] What can happen to our attitude towards life and behavior towards others in responding to negative current events if we lose sight of the fact that we belong to another kingdom?