

Ice Breaker

What are the BEST and WORST Christmas presents you have ever received?

Biblical Focus

READ THE WEEKLY VERSES TOGETHER

But the angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary; you have found favor with God. You will conceive and give birth to a son, and you are to call him Jesus. He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High. The Lord God will give him the throne of his father David, and he will reign over Jacob's descendants forever; his kingdom will never end."

Luke 1:30-33 (NIV)

"I am the Lord's servant," Mary answered. "May your word to me be fulfilled." Then the angel left her.

Luke 1:38 (NIV)

Christ is the exact likeness of the unseen God. He existed before God made anything at all, and, in fact, Christ himself is the Creator who made everything in heaven and earth.

Colossians 1:15-16A (TLB)

Discussion Questions

- What stands out to you about Mary's encounter with the angel?
- What can we learn from Mary's response to God when He tells her that something impossible is about to happen?
- People all throughout history have asked the question, "What is God like?" How does Colossians 1:15-16 help you respond to this question? What is God like?
- What seemingly impossible situation in your life today is God asking you to respond like Mary and say, "I am the Lord's servant. May your word to me be fulfilled"?

Prayer Focus

TAKE PRAYER REQUESTS!

Ask the group to share prayer requests. After requests are shared, follow one of the following two options:

Option A: If most of your group is comfortable with praying out loud, split into groups of two or three and have them pray for each other individually.

Option B: If the majority of your group is not yet comfortable with praying out loud, simply lead the entire group in praying over each request. Don't hurry! Let the Holy Spirit move and speak in His timing!

(PRAYER TIP: Ask what people experienced during the prayer time. If they received a mental picture, word, or feeling during prayer, many times that is God! Encourage others to share what they experience.)

Want More?

Spend time with Jesus by doing the following exercise, either in your LifeGroup OR on your own during the week:

Step 1) Take 15 minutes and read Luke 1 slowly. Ask the Holy Spirit to speak to you and teach you. If you have read this story many times before, ask God to "make it new" again for you.

Step 2) What word or phrase is God highlighting to you?

Step 3) Spend time turning those phrases or words God highlighted to you back into prayers.