

Small Group Questions:

- 1) Did you put up your Christmas decorations earlier this year than normal? Why is our world so eager for Christmas this year-even though it might be different?
- 2) Have you ever discovered something exciting that you eagerly told everybody about? How is that like the Christmas story? See Luke 2:17-18.
- 3) Read Isaiah 7:10-11. What did God offer King Ahaz and why? See also Isaiah 7:1-2. How would you respond if God gave you that offer? What might you say?
- 4) Read Isaiah 7:12. Why do you think the King responded the way he did? What is it foolish to bet on ourselves and our ability to solve things? When have you been tempted to bet on yourself instead of God?
- 5) Read Isaiah 7:13-14. How did God respond to the King and what sign did He give? Why is that name *Immanuel* a source of great comfort and peace?
- 6) Read Luke 2:8-16. How is this sign something so massive wrapped up in something so small? Do you envy the shepherd's experience? How can we still have that experience today?
- 7) Why is the Christmas story not just about being a spectator at the manger, but a participant? How can there be a Nativity in your heart?