

# CHRISTMAS IS

*good news*



## Week 4 - December 20

### WORSHIP

Read Psalm 23 aloud. Take a moment to reflect on God's Word and center in Him.

### FELLOWSHIP

What are you most looking forward to this Christmas?

### DISCUSSION

1. What is the best news you've ever received?

2. Read Isaiah 40:1-11.

-What is the good news in verse 2?

-What do you notice about the revelation of God's glory (vv. 3-5)?

-What do verses 6-8 tell us about ourselves and about the word of God?

-How is God described in verses 10-11?

3. Which part of Isaiah 40:1-11 is most comforting to you? Why?

4. Read 2 Corinthians 1:3-11.

-What do notice about the comfort we receive from God and offer others (vv. 3-8)?

-How do Paul's troubles in verses 8-10 affect your view of God's comfort?

5. In what ways is Christmas good news?

-Is there someone in your life who needs to hear this good news?

-What is one way you can soak in the good news this week?

### PRAYER

Ask for prayer requests; try to remember any needs that came up during the fellowship or discussion time. Check in on requests from last week, if you can. Does anyone have a practical need that another group member may be able to help with?

Pray for group, church, and community needs. Close with this prayer by Ted Loder:

*Lord God, in the deepest night there rises the star of morning, of birth, the herald of a new day you are making, a day of great joy dawning in yet faint shafts of light and love. I hear whispers of peace in the stillness, fresh breezes of promise stirring, winter sparrows chirping of life, a baby's cry of need and hope—Christmas! In the darkness I see the light and find in it comfort, confidence, cause for celebration, for the darkness cannot overcome it; and I rejoice to nourish it in myself, in other people, in the world for the sake of him in whom it was born and shines forever, even Jesus the Christ. <sup>1</sup>*

<sup>1</sup> Ted Loder, Guerrillas of Grace: Prayers for the Battle (Minneapolis: Augsburg, 1981), 139.