

FBC Small-Group Materials

Week of December 4th, 2005

What Child is this?

“What are we to make of Christ?” There is no question of what we can make of Him; it is entirely a question of what He intends to make of us. CS Lewis

For Small-Group Leaders

Dear Leaders,

As we enter into the Christmas season, we desperately need to know that Christmas is about more than presents and parties. Over the next several weeks the Scrolls and small group materials will aim at helping all of us have a more Christ-centered Christmas.

Scott

Discussion Starters (choose one or both or make up your own):

- Read the opening introduction in the Scrolls. What strikes you about these quotes by famous people? Who do people say that Christ is today?
- Have people share what Christmas means to them.

Discussion Questions:

1. Divide your small group into three smaller groups giving each group one of these three passages: Luke 1:26-38; Matthew 1:18-24; Luke 2:8-20. Ask each group to discuss what the angels had to say about the Christ child. Join back together and let each group share what they learned.
2. Read Luke 2:1-20. Then read the following quote: “...*the point Luke is making is clear. The birth of this little boy is the beginning of a confrontation between the Kingdom of God – in all its apparent weakness, insignificance and vulnerability – and the kingdoms of the world.*” NT Wright
3. The historical background of the Christ story brings added richness to the story. Notice that two kings are mentioned in Luke 2, Augustus and the Messiah King Jesus. By doing this Luke presents a collision of Kingdoms. In what ways did the collision or conflict manifest or show itself during the days following the birth of Christ.
4. How is that conflict manifesting itself today?
5. Jesus’ kingdom came in the form of a child with “*apparent weakness, insignificance and vulnerability.*” Why did God choose to send his son and initiate his kingdom in this manner?
6. What does it mean to be a citizen of Christ’s kingdom?

Group Project:

How can we as a group honor Christ as King during this Christmas season?