



# PREPARE HIM ROOM

celebrating the birth of Jesus

LIVE IT!  
GROUP GUIDE



WEEK 01

# "A Long Awaited Arrival"

## Isaiah 9:6-7

**The birth of Jesus Christ is an event that was long-awaited throughout the history of the people of Israel. The birth of this child who would be the Messiah - Israel's deliverer had been long foretold, yet when He came onto the scene that night in Bethlehem, no one could have anticipated what God's ultimate plan was going to look like.**

## Listening to God's Word...

### ● Read Isaiah 9:6-7

*Imagine what it must have been like to be the Jewish people, hearing this prophecy in their current state of oppression and distance from God. What might it have felt like to hear such a hopeful picture of the future? Do you think it felt real to them?*

*Take a look at some of the names that Isaiah used to describe this child here. Talk about the meaning of each name, and consider how you see Jesus embodying each of these titles in other places in Scripture.*

### ● Read Luke 1:26-38

*Can you imagine what it must have felt like to be Mary in this historic moment? Take a look at and discuss the following things...*

- the content of the angel's message to her
- the thoughts/emotions you imagine that she must have been having
- the response she gives to the angel

### ● Read Galatians 4:1-7

*(vs. 1-3): Paul compares the idea of living under the law to being a child who stands to inherit a great fortune, but cannot receive it until he reaches a certain age. Discuss how this applies to the way people were living before Christ came.*

*(vs.4): Paul says that Jesus came "in the fullness of time". At the exact moment that He needed to. Talk about some of the natural reasons why this might have been the ideal time for Jesus to be born.*

*(vs.5-7): What did Christ's coming accomplish for those of us who believe in Him? What sort of change has taken place in our relationship to God as a result? What are the implications of this change?*

## Believing what it says...

- **Do you believe that Jesus Christ is a Wonderful Counselor...Mighty God...Everlasting Father...Prince of Peace?**

*How has He been each of these things in your life? Which one(s) in particular are the most difficult for you to believe and experience?*

- **Do you believe that God will work His plans “in the fullness of time”?**

*How do you see yourself living in this belief and trust? In what parts of your life is it most difficult for you to trust that God holds each event of our lives and has a plan beyond what we can see?*

- **Do you believe that Jesus Christ will return again one day?**

*How do you see yourself living in light of eternity? What ways are you getting too distracted by the here and now at the expense of investing in what really matters?*

## Living it out...

- **Spend some time in prayer thanking God for sending Jesus at the perfect time...thank Him for the fact that we are on this side of the Advent so as to be able to look back and see the fulfillment of thousands of years of anticipation.**
- **Write down some of the areas of your life that you are having trouble trusting that Jesus is who Scripture tells us He is and that God’s plan will be accomplished in His perfect timing. Take some time to pray that God would help you further learn to trust and experience Him in these areas.**
- **Pray that God would reveal at least one way that you could live in light of eternity in the coming week. Make a goal of doing so and share it with someone who can help keep you accountable to it.**

## Notes:

*Use this space to write down what you’re hearing God say through His Word and how you plan to respond this week...*