

## [Celebrate Jesus] Group Questions

### [Celebrate Jesus] The Significance of the Birth of Jesus

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**BIG IDEA:** He was born in an obscure village, the son of a peasant woman. He grew up in another village, where he worked in a carpenter's shop until he was thirty. Then for three years he became a wandering preacher. He never wrote a book. He never held an office. He never had a family or owned a house. He didn't go to college. He never visited a big city. He never travelled two hundred miles from the place where he was born. He did none of those things one usually associates with greatness. He had no credentials but himself. He was only thirty-three when the tide of public opinion turned against him. His friends ran away. He was turned over to his enemies and went through a mockery of a trial. He was executed by the state. While he was dying, his executioners gambled for his clothing, the only property he had on earth. When he was dead he was laid in a borrowed grave through the pity of a friend. Twenty centuries have come and gone, and today he is the central figure of the human race and the leader of mankind's progress. All the armies that ever marched, all the navies that ever sailed, all the parliaments that ever sat, all the kings that ever reigned, put together, have not affected the life of man on this earth as much as that **One Solitary Life**.

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**ICEBREAKER:** What is the best gift you have ever received at Christmas? Who was the gift from? How old were you? How long had you asked for it?

1. **READ Luke 1:30-38. Why would God choose an ordinary peasant girl and a carpenter to be parents to His son?** Have you ever felt called but thought you were insignificant or unable to live up to the calling? Who or what encourages you during these times?
  2. **Matthew 1:20-24. What was the best gift you ever gave?** Who was it to? What did you have to sacrifice to get it?
  3. **READ John 1:1-4, 14. God's greatest gift to us is not life. God's greatest gift to us is eternal life and communion with Him.** The unique thing about God's gift is we can give it away to others. God calls us to give His gift away. How are you going to wrap your gift? Who are you going to give it to?
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#### Scripture:

- **Luke 1:30-38**

**30** And the angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. **31** And behold, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus. **32** He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High. And the Lord God will give to him the throne of his father David, **33** and he will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end." **34** And Mary said to the angel, "How will this be, since I am a virgin?" **35** And the angel answered her, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born will be called holy—the Son of God. **36** And behold, your relative Elizabeth in her old age has also conceived a son, and this is the sixth month with her who was called barren. **37** For nothing will be impossible with God." **38** And Mary said, "Behold, I am the servant of the Lord; let it be to me according to your word." And the angel departed from her.

- **Matthew 1:20-24**

**20** But as he considered these things, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream, saying, "Joseph, son of David, do not fear to take Mary as your wife, for that which is conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. **21** She will bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins." **22** All this took place to fulfill what the Lord had spoken by the prophet: **23** "Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and they shall call his name Immanuel"

- **John 1:1-4, 14**

**1** In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. **2** He was in the beginning with God. **3** All things were made through him, and without him was not any thing made that was made. **4** In him was life, and the life was the light of men. **14** And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we have seen his glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth.

**Meditate & Memorize:** For to us a child is born, to us a son is given; and the government shall be upon his shoulder, and his name shall be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.  
Isaiah 9:6

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**More Information:** Comments, questions and notes are taken from: The Bible, blueletterbible.org, biblegateway.com  
If you have any comments, suggestions, **life-change** stories, or feedback to give regarding these questions or your group please email [lesa@midwaychurch.com](mailto:lesa@midwaychurch.com).