



The Incarnation

Week of March 13, 2016

These discussion questions can be used the week following the message. You can use these questions for personal growth and development, or as a guide for your Connect Group discussions.

Message

Read John 1:1, 3, 14

The Incarnation is the story of an infinite God who became like us; broken with us. Your life is defined by what you believe about God. When you hear that Jesus was sent to Earth to give redemption for us you either believe it and live in restoration or you reject it and live in ruin. Why does what you choose matter? It matters because it is only through the Incarnation—the presence of Jesus in our lives—that you can understand you were created for relationship with the Father. Jesus offers redemption so you can have relationship. If you admit that need and honestly trust Jesus, then God forgives and restores—making life forever right again. The Incarnation means God is with you through Jesus. Right now. Right here. And forever more. Dare to believe it.

Pray

God, it amazes me that your love for us is so big that you would send your Son to redeem us. Lord, take my sins, forgive them, and help me understand what it means to live with you. Enter my pain, turn my mourning to dancing, and help me live a redeemed life in Jesus.

Share Your Experience This Week
#SevernRun

Getting Started

- What special Easter traditions do you remember from your childhood?
- Do you ever feel alone in this world (separated by your views, or beliefs, or values)? What does it feel like to be so alone? Are you really alone?

Listening Deeply

1. God is for you, not against you. How can this statement make you live differently?
2. Read John 1:1-14. What does this passage mean to you?
3. The word Emmanuel means “God with us.” How does this term make Christianity different? Does this term make your life different? Should it?
4. The Incarnation is a big word that means God became flesh in Jesus in order to redeem us from our sins. Have you made the decision to believe and receive that redemption? Share your story.
5. Jesus wants to enter our pain; he became broken with us so he can understand our pain and redeem it. What pain are you refusing to let Jesus redeem?
6. Dare to look at your life. Are you trying to get through it on your own? Or are you letting God redeem your pain and be present with you in your life? What is the difference?

Living Wide in Jesus

To live wide in Jesus means embracing him, every moment of every day. Jesus came because God is for you, not against you. He wants to be a part of your life because you are worth loving. To accept the redemption of Jesus is to accept that the God of the universe is actually with you for every moment in time, now and forever. If you want him. But relationship is a two-way street. As a follower of Jesus, you have God in your corner. How can you live that reality? Use the space below or on the back of the page to list the things that you are refusing to let God redeem. Then list all the things you do and places you go and think about how you can do your life differently knowing that God is right there with you every step of the way.