



Session 5

Big Idea:

Christmas is about God's omnipresence becoming a local presence.

GROUP OPENER

What kinds of Christmas art appeals to you? Is there some aesthetic of this season that you enjoy?

GROUP DISCUSSION

- Read John 1:1-18 Twice out loud, in different versions of the Bible – everyone listens.
- What are some significant observations you have about this text? What stood out? What didn't you like? What was confusing?
- What does this passage teach us about God? How does it change how I see God?
- What does this passage teach us about humanity/ourselves? How would it change how I treat others?
- What does this passage teach us about obedience? How should it affect the way I live?

December 10
WEEKEND

ACTION STEPS

I will statement . . .

- Based on what God is teaching in this passage, what should I do? Reflect for a minute or two and develop an action statement. Put it in the form, "I Will _____". Make it concrete, simple, and achievable. Share it with the group.

As a Group

"After hearing about Jesus' birth and a brief story about his boyhood, we find him again as a grown man at the banks of the Jordan. He's one in a crowd, squinting in the sun, sand gritty between his toes. The one who is worthy of worship, glory, and fanfare spent decades in obscurity and ordinariness. As if the incarnation itself is not mind-bending enough, the incarnate God spent his days quietly, a man who went to work, got sleepy, and lived a pedestrian life among average people... If Jesus spent the vast majority of his life honoring God amid the ordinary and mundanity of life, what does that tell us about when and where and how we should follow Jesus? What does it tell us about when and where and how we should worship God?" - Tish Harrison

How would you answer her questions?

Discuss if it is challenging or easy for you to see God grow and move you in the every day parts of life.

On your Own

Are there people in your circles that need the presence of God and others during the Christmas season?

Make a plan for how you can go out of your way during a busy season to be present for someone.