

# WEEK 4

## SMALL GROUP GUIDE

UNWRAPPED

When you think of Christmas, you probably think about an event — an event that is (hopefully) filled with gifts, food, family, and fun. But what happens when that event isn't as joyful or peaceful as we wish it were? And is the "event" even what Christmas is about anyway? In this 4-week series, we'll discover what this season is truly about. It's about **getting ready to receive God's gift of Jesus, sharing that gift with others, rejoicing in the surprising gifts God gives us, and taking time to enjoy God's presence.**

### THIS WEEK

#### THE BIG IDEA

The best gift is God's presence.

#### THE BIBLE

Matthew 1:18–23; John 14:16–20, 1:14

- Who are some of the people in your life who feel like family, even though you're not related?
- What are some of the ways the people in our lives shape who we are?
- Have you ever been part of a group that came together to support each other or someone else? Tell us about it.
- Read Ecclesiastes 4:9–12. Do you have any relationships like this right now? What makes those relationships feel like family?
- Share some of the names you listed in your "family." Which of those names are . . .
  - Your relatives?
  - Your friends or peers?
  - Your teachers, coaches, or mentors?
  - People in this room?
- Is there anyone on your list who you want to spend more time with, or learn from more regularly, and why?
- Is there anyone on your list you think you need to spend less time with, and why?
- Why do you think it's significant that God's family is made up of people "from every nation, tribe, and tongue"? How is your community similar to, or different from, the body of Christ in this way?
- Do you think your community needs to grow bigger, stronger, or both? What's one thing you can do about that this week?
- What's one thing our group can do to better act like family, to each other and to the world around us?