

WEEK 4

SMALL GROUP GUIDE



Another Christmas is almost here, along with the annual onslaught of Christmas music, movies, lights, shopping lists, ads, and inflatable lawn ornaments. We all know the Christmas season is supposed to be about generosity, family, and celebrating the gift of Jesus . . . but to be honest — how much of your Christmas holiday is actually spent thinking about yourself and what you want? Since we're all familiar with this selfishness struggle, this 4-week series will take us back to the very first Christmas — a day that was only possible because of the selflessness, generosity, and sacrifice of God and God's people. On the first Christmas, Mary and Joseph gave **up their comfort**, the shepherds **gave their stories**, the wise men **gave their worship**, and **God gave everything**. So this Christmas, what will you give in response?

THIS WEEK

THE BIG IDEA

On the first Christmas,
God gave everything.

THE BIBLE

Luke 2:29-32; John 3:16-17;
Philippians 2:5-11

- What's the greatest gift you've ever given someone? Why was it such a good gift?
- We all love to receive gifts, but why do you think we also love to give gifts?
- How would you explain the gift God gave us through the birth of Jesus?
- What are some of the ways we could respond (either positively or negatively) to the gift God has given us?
- Whether or not you were already familiar with the story of Jesus, what's one thing you noticed or discovered about Him during the last few weeks?
- When Simeon saw Jesus for the first time, what do you think he thought or felt? Have you ever felt that way about Jesus?
- Why do you think God chose to come to earth as a baby?
- Read Philippians 2:5-11. Why was Jesus' birth such a sacrifice for God?
- This Christmas, what's one way you plan to respond to the gift God has given you?
- How do you think God might be calling you to continue responding to the gift of Jesus even after Christmas is over?