

## Small Group Discussion Guide December 10, 2017

Sermon Title: "Christmas Questions: "How Can I Wait So Long?"

Sermon Text: Luke 1:26-45 Scripture Reading: Isaiah 61:1-3

*Leader:* Please allow a moment for introductions/visiting, and then have someone offer a brief prayer for God to meet with your group.

**Getting Started:** Are you waiting for any significant event in the future? How do you feel about waiting?

## Discussion:

- 1. Were you excited for Christmas as a child? Do you remember any significant gifts you had asked for that made it hard to wait to see if you would receive it?
- 2. The Jewish nation started hearing about a promised Messiah over 700 years before the birth of Jesus. Look up these references from the Old Testament prophets and reference them to the Christmas narrative. Can you find their fulfillment in the New Testament?

\*Isaiah 7:14 \*Isaiah 9:6,7 \* Micah 5:2 \*Hosea 11:1

- **3.** What village did Joseph and Mary live in? Where was that in proximity to the place Jesus would be born? Why did they have to leave their village to go to Jesus' birthplace?
- 4. When Mary was visited by an angel, what was the message she received? What was the immediate question she asked? (Reference: Vs. Luke 1:34)
- After His earthly ministry was over, Jesus ascended back into heaven.
  (Read Acts 1:8-11) What question did the messengers ask the disciples as they watched?
- **6.** We no longer wait for Jesus first coming. Now, we await his second coming! Why do you suppose He delays?
  - \*Because the mission is not finished. (Reference: 2 Peter 3:9)
  - \*Because God's timing is perfect. (Reference: Galatians 4:4)
  - \*Because the best things in life are worth waiting for. (Reference: Revelation 22:20)

**Closing:** Close by sharing prayer requests. Pray for each another and for the needs that were shared. And as you go, **SHARE JESUS!** 

