

For follow up study of the sermon on December 18, 2016

STUDY GUIDE: “CHRISTMAS IS... CELEBRATION”

Discussion Starters

1. How do you celebrate important occasions?
2. What is the most important part of a celebration?

Study:

3. Look up the following passages. Read them in context and note what they teach us about celebrating the Lord's birth.

Matthew 2:10-11

Luke 1:46-56

Luke 2:13-14

Luke 2:25-32

Luke 2:36-38

Luke 22:19-20

John 8:56

4. What elements of celebration do you find in these passages?

Study Guide: “Celebration”, p. 2

5. To complete the next section of the study guide, you will need to use a Bible Dictionary. Remember, the words listed below are from the NASU, but the word you are trying to define is the Hebrew or Greek word translated by the NASU—NOT the English word. If you have any questions about how to use these tools, contact your group leader or one of the pastoral staff.

Define the following words or terms.

--“worshiped” (Matthew 2:11)—

--“exalts” (Luke 1:46)—

--“rejoiced” (Luke 1:47)—

--“thanksgiving” (Luke 22:19)—(NOTE: Pay attention to the two words making up this compound word.)

6. Choose one of the words you looked up above, and write how understanding the meaning and background of that word better helped you understand this passage.

7. What is the significance of John 8:58? How does this affect our celebration of Christmas?

Taking It Home

8. How does your normal Christmas celebration honor Jesus?

9. What changes do you think need to be made in how you celebrate Christmas? Why?

10. What Christmas present will you give to Jesus this year?