



The message of Christmas is not just that Jesus came our way; Christmas celebrates the way that he came. The way God chose to wrap the greatest gift ever says a lot about who He is, and about how valuable we are.

**These questions are designed to extend the impact of the weekend message. Use them to go deeper in your personal study time, with your family and/or with a group.**

**1** Icebreaker question: what is your preferred kind of wrapping style? (Fast with no frills? Pinterest perfect? Pay someone else at the store to do it for you? There are no wrong answers.)

**2** The list of prophecies about the messiah is long. There are promises to people (*for example, Genesis 3:15b, Genesis 22:18, 2 Samuel 7:16*) and promises through people (*for example Deuteronomy 18:15 or Isaiah 9:6*). At Christmas **God kept every promise to send a savior.** What do these promises tell us about God? What do they tell us about Jesus?

**3** **Read Matthew 1:18-23. God kept his promise to save sinners.** This promised child has a special name (Jesus means “God saves”) and his life will have a special purpose (to save his people from their sins). This promise assumes two things: 1) people have sinned and so 2) people need saving. How would you explain those two claims to someone who isn’t a Christian?

**4** **Read Acts 1:3-11.** Because he’s been faithful before, we believe **God will keep his promise to come back.** Why is the return of Christ good news?

**5** **Read Luke 1:34-38.** The angel makes a promise to back up all the other promises: no word from God will ever fail. What promises from God are hard for you to believe? What does it look like to have a faith that says, “May your word to be fulfilled”? Finish by praying some of the promises of God over each other.

