



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.

