

## Icebreaker Questions (Choose 1)

1. “What’s a Christmas gift you were thrilled to get as a kid?”
  2. “What’s one thing you secretly hope for this Christmas season—something money can’t buy?”
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## Discussion Questions

1. **Read Luke 2:10–11.** The angel announces “*good news of great joy for all people.*” What does it say about God’s heart that He brings joy *into* a weary world rather than waiting for it to get better first? Where do you personally need to experience that kind of joy?
2. **Read Romans 5:6.** Paul says, “*When we were utterly helpless, Christ came...*” Why is it important to see ourselves as “helpless” rather than “almost good enough”? How does understanding your helplessness actually bring freedom instead of shame?
3. **Read 1 Corinthians 15:3–4.** Why is the resurrection essential to our hope—not just the birth of Jesus? What difference does resurrection hope make in your everyday struggles?
4. **Read 1 Peter 1:3.** Peter calls our salvation a “*living hope.*” What do you think he means by “living”? How is living hope different from wishful thinking or blind optimism?
5. **Read John 1:14.** “*The Word became flesh and made His dwelling among us.*” Why is it significant that God didn’t send a message but came Himself? What does that tell you about God’s approach to your pain and weariness?
6. **Read John 3:16.** God’s gift of Jesus was motivated by love. How does receiving that love personally change the way we give or serve others? Who in your world needs a reminder that God hasn’t forgotten them?
7. **Read Luke 2:17–20.** After the shepherds encounter Jesus, they spread the news. How can we carry that same “thrill of hope” into our homes, workplaces, and communities this week? What’s one practical way to share hope with someone who’s weary this Christmas?

## **Reflection & Prayer**

“Where in my life do I need a fresh thrill of hope right now?”

## **This Week’s Practice**

- **Receive:** Spend time each day reflecting on one verse about hope (Romans 15:13, Psalm 42:11, Hebrews 6:19, etc.).
- **Respond:** Do one act of kindness that brings hope to someone else—an invitation, a meal, a handwritten note.
- **Rejoice:** Take time to thank God for the gift of Jesus before opening any other gifts this Christmas.