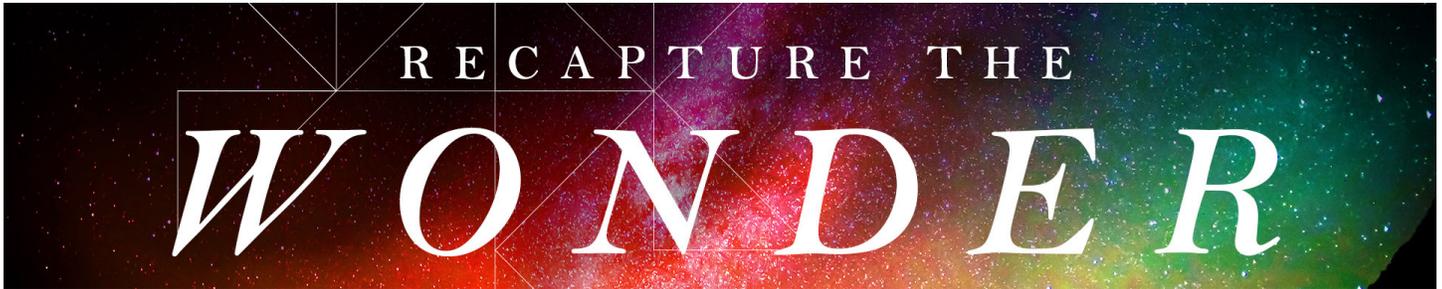


MESSAGE DISCUSSION GUIDE

Recapture The Wonder // The Gift

Dec. 23&24, 2017



ICEBREAKER

When does your family open presents for Christmas and what has been the best gift you've ever received?

KEY SCRIPTURE

Matthew 1:18

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

Open the Gift of God's Peace

1. How can we confuse the story of Santa with the story of Jesus?
2. If you were to ask some of your friends or relatives: "How does someone get to heaven"? What do you think they would say?
3. *Read 1 John 1:8-9*
4. If we can never be good enough to get to heaven, how can we gain assurance and peace? (How would you tell the story of salvation to someone who wants a relationship with Christ?)

Open the Gift of Help

1. Why are there hundreds of names for God in the Bible and can you name a few of them?
2. *Read Mathew 1:22-23*
3. What does Immanuel mean?
4. What are some BIG things that you are facing and where does "faith" come into play?

Open the Gift of Guidance

1. What decisions are looming for you right now?
2. God will guide you if you ask and _____ and _____ what he says.
3. Have you ever felt that God has guided you in a certain direction, if so what did that look like?

PRAYER

Heavenly Father, we thank you for your gift of peace, help and guidance. During this season some of us are struggling with unresolved issues with relationships, others with depression, loneliness or addictions. But Lord we know that you are Bigger than our problems. And we put our trust in you Lord. We pray that you would put a hedge of protection around each one of so that we can see your path for our lives more clearly and guide us into a closer relationship with you. In Jesus' Name, Amen.

CHALLENGE

Give someone a gift (that they would appreciate) that would not expect one from you.