



## “Christmas Anticipation”

Luke 2:21-40

1. \_\_\_\_\_  
-Luke 2:25; Matthew 2:12-13; Isaiah 53:2-3, 40:2; Matthew 5:4

2. \_\_\_\_\_  
-Matthew 1:22-23; John 1:9-14

3. \_\_\_\_\_  
-Matthew 1:19-23; Psalm 130:1-8



### Talking it over (use this for discussion around your community group):

- Have someone at your table read through the passage for today.
- Name some of the things that people look forward to at Christmas time that is different than other times of the year:
- What are some of your fond memories from Christmas? Share one with your group.
- For some people, Christmas is a very difficult time. Share with your group some reasons why you think that might be.
- How would you summarize the emotional climate and general attitude of the Jewish people at the time that Christ was born?
- Why do you think Jesus was born in such humble beginnings, instead of in a palace or a place of authority and riches?
- Have someone look up and read Isaiah 53:2-3. How is Jesus' birth in keeping with this description of Jesus? Why was it important to God that this be true of Jesus?
- What does that tell you about Jesus' ability to understand your situations?

### Digging Deeper (if you still have time, or for further study later, go through these questions):

- Given that Christmas reminds many people of the loss of a loved one, or of their own loneliness, how does Christmas help them?
- Why is it so important to our theology that Jesus is “God with us”? Couldn't he still be God and stay in heaven?
- Do you need God in your life? Why? What has he done for you? In what ways has he rescued you? What does it mean to be “saved”?
- Do people need to be rescued? Why, and from what? If you believe that, in what ways are you helping others know what God can do for them?
- Re-read through your notes. Review the main points and read the Scripture references that are provided for you.**