

Use the following growth group discussion questions to deepen your relationship with God, his Word and others.

BREAK IT OUT:

1. What was your understanding of Christmas when you were a child? What is one of your best Christmas memories?
2. What stood out to you from this Sunday's sermon?

TALK IT OUT:

3. What about Jesus did not meet the expectations many people of His day had for the Messiah? How may we struggle with our own expectations of Jesus today?
4. How can we make the sacred story of Christmas become part of our everyday lives?
5. In what ways can we make room for Jesus?
6. What do we learn from the sermon and this chapter that helps us better understand who Jesus is?
7. How can God use us to accomplish His mission, like He used people throughout history?
8. How can we, in practical and powerful ways, implement the mission of Christ into our lives? Our church?

WORK IT OUT:

9. What has God brought to your attention through the message and our group discussion? What is your next step this week?
10. How can your growth group pray for you this week?

BIRTH OF THE KING

21/31 in the series The Story

September 10, 2017 • Pastor Carl Lodico • Chapter 22

Missing the sacred is nothing new to our generation. In Jesus' day, Israel had lost touch with the sacred. Even though they were waiting for a sacred Messiah, when Jesus came, the masses missed the sacred in their midst. Let's recapture the sacred names and movements of God's story back into our lives.

1. **The Sacred Arrival: God in human flesh.**

2. **The Sacred Messiah: Jesus Christ** - (*Matthew 2:2-3; John 1:29*). The Lamb of God
The King of the Jews

Our problem is that we want to be our own messiah (*Genesis 3:5*).

Only Jesus is the Lamb of God (*John 13:1, Exodus 12:3*).

Only Jesus fulfills prophecy (*Zechariah 9:9, Luke 19:37, Philippians 2:8*).

Jesus asks you today, "Who do you say that I am?" -*Matthew 16:15-16*

3. **The Sacred Mission: Seek and save sinners** - (*1 Timothy 1:15*).

Take Away

Make room for Jesus Christ and carry on His mission!

NEXT WEEK 22/31 • THE STORY