



The Groups Weekly Study Guide will resume in January with our Winter Groups.

TITLE: "A Trough For A King?"

Micah 5:2– “But you, Bethlehem Ephrathah, though you are small among the clans[a] of Judah, out of you will come for me one who will be ruler over Israel, whose origins are from of old, from ancient times.”

Luke 2:10–12– Then the angel said to them, “Do not be afraid, for behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy which will be to all people. For there is born to you this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord. And this will be the sign to you: You will find a Babe wrapped in swaddling cloths, lying in a manger.”

A TROUGH WAS FIT FOR A KING...



Because God reveals the importance of coming to BE WITH US.

Deuteronomy 31:8– “The LORD himself goes before you and will be with you; he will never leave you nor forsake you. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged.”



Much of our community is hurting, lonely, lost & broken



- Breakdown of FAMILIES • Increased MOBILITY
- Heavy WORKLOADS • Rise of SOCIAL MEDIA

Isaiah 41:10– Don't you be afraid, for I am with you. Don't be dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you. Yes, I will help you. Yes, I will uphold you with the right hand of my righteousness.



Because God is not afraid of the MESSINESS OF HUMANITY.

Luke 19:5– When Jesus reached the spot, he looked up and said to him, “Zacchaeus, come down immediately. I must stay at your house today.”

Mark 2:17– “It is not the healthy who need a doctor, but the sick.”

John 8:11– “Go now and leave your life of sin.”





Matthew 8:3— Jesus reached out his hand and touched the man. “I am willing,” he said. “Be clean!” Immediately he was cleansed of his leprosy.



Because the manger signaled the model of SERVING HUMANITY.

Matthew 20:28— For even the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve others and to give his life as a ransom for many.”

Philippians 2:5–11— Have this mind among yourselves, which is yours in Christ Jesus, who, though he was in the form of God, did not count equality with God a thing to be grasped, but emptied himself, by taking the form of a servant, being born in the likeness of men. And being found in human form, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross. Therefore God has highly exalted him and bestowed on him the name that is above every name, so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.



Because everyone HAS SIGNIFICANCE, no matter where they come from.

Luke 24:17-19— Jesus asked them, “What are you discussing together as you walk along?” They stood still, their faces downcast. One of them, named Cleopas, asked him, “Are you the only one visiting Jerusalem who does not know the things that have happened there in these days?” “What things?” he asked...

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Until then, here are some self-reflecting questions.*

- What messy place in your heart or life have you avoided bringing to Jesus?
- What might happen if you welcomed Him into that place today?
- How can you imitate Christ’s humility in a practical way this week?
- Where in your life have you felt unseen lately? How might Jesus be meeting you there?

Ask God to open your eyes to someone around you who needs to be noticed, encouraged, or heard.

