Week2 BRBC Groups December 10, 2023

Scripture

Matthew 1:18-25

Ice Breaker

1. Did you ever write letters to Santa or have your children done so? Share any memorable experiences.

Going Deeper

- 1. Is there anything that stood out to you from Sunday's message, or do you have any questions?
- 2. Read Matthew 1:18-25
- 3. What do we learn about Joseph in verses 18 and 19?
- 4. What can we learn from Joseph's response to the angel's message about Jesus' birth?
- 5. The message this week discussed Joseph's internal conflict but how he ultimately chose to be faithful to what God asked of him. How can you apply Joseph's faithfulness to your own life when facing difficult circumstances or decisions?
- 6. The second week of advent highlights the theme of peace. When you hear the word peace, what comes to your mind initially?
- 7. How do you define peace in your life, and has that definition evolved over time?
- 8. In the message this week, Rob shared about what the Roman Empires vision for peace was. How would you describe it?
- 9. In the prophecy about the coming messiah in Isaiah 9:6, the coming messiah (Jesus) is called the prince of peace. How is this peace similar or different from the Roman vision of peace? To follow up, what is the biblical vision of peace (shalom)?
- 10. In the passage of scripture we read, Jesus is called "God with us," how does that inform or redefine your understanding of peace?
- 11. In the message this week, Rob said Jesus is our peace. What does this mean to you personally?
- 12. In what ways have you experienced God's presence in your life, and how has that contributed to a sense of peace?
- 13. How can you pursue a biblical vision of peace (wholeness/flourishing) in your life and encourage it in other peoples?

