



Small Group Study Guide

SENT

DELIVERING
THE GIFT OF HOPE
AT CHRISTMAS

November 29, 2020: “Jesus Reconciles”

OPENING PRAYER

Heavenly Father, thank you for sending your Son into this world for all people. Thank you for coming to the unsuspecting, unqualified and undeserving. And thank you for loving us so much that you sent Jesus to reconcile us with you. And Lord, please forgive us when we lose sight of the fact that we are sinners in need of a savior. We ask that you send us to bring Jesus to others. We pray this in the matchless and powerful name of Jesus. Amen.

SCRIPTURE PASSAGES:

Luke 2:8-11 (NIV)

⁸ And there were shepherds living out in the fields nearby, keeping watch over their flocks at night. ⁹ An angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. ¹⁰ But the angel said to them, “Do not be afraid. I bring you good news that will cause great joy for all the people. ¹¹ Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; he is the Messiah, the Lord.

Luke 5:8 (NIV)

⁸ When Simon Peter saw this, he fell at Jesus’ knees and said, “Go away from me, Lord; I am a sinful man!”

Romans 3:23-24 (NIV)

²³ for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, ²⁴ and all are justified freely by his grace through the redemption that came by Christ Jesus.

INTRODUCTION

One of the unique things Christians believe is that God became one of us. And every December we celebrate this event. For thirty years he lived undercover as a carpenter, surfaced as a miracle worker and rabbi for three years, and allowed himself to die in the most degrading way imaginable. He came as one of us but was treated as less than one of us. So the question we have to ask is “why in the world would God do that?”

The good news becomes good when we recognize we’re not all that good. This is the invitation Jesus gives everyone because He was sent to reconcile all people with God. We all have the same opportunity to reclaim peace with God and find hope. And once we find hope, we are then sent to bring Jesus and hope to others.

QUESTIONS

- 1) When asked, “Do you want the good news or the bad news first,” which do you pick? Why?
- 2) Growing up, when you heard the term sin, what came to mind?
- 3) Read Luke 5:8 on page 1. Why was Peter “not ok” with himself?
- 4) When did it first dawn on you that you needed a Savior?
- 5) Read Romans 3:23–24 on page 1.
 - What does Paul say is the result of not living up to the glory of God?
 - Who does this affect?
 - How is this good news?

FINAL APPLICATION

The ones to whom Jesus was sent became the ones who were sent to bring Jesus to others. This week ask God where you are being sent.