



## BiG iDEA SMALL GROUP DiSCUSSiON GiDE

Small groups that focus on the Big Idea for the week can use this guide to apply the message to life and take action. Feel free to use whatever parts of this guide best fit your group personality and time frame. Do NOT feel like you have to use every question. All verses, unless otherwise noted, are from the New International Version (NIV).

**12.24.09 // Mystery Messiah: Revealed**

### BiG iDEA:

**Christmas reveals the mystery that the Messiah is the Son of God who is the only one able to save the world. Jesus *is* that Messiah.**

### // Ice Breaker

**Option 1: The Messiah was prophesied about for hundreds of years. But, hardly anyone realized that the baby Jesus was the Messiah. What type of Messiah did the people expect?**

**Option 2: What are some 'Saviors' in books, movies and TV Shows? Why do you think they are popular?**

### // Questions for Discussion

#### 1. Read Luke 2 10 - 12

<sup>10</sup>But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid. I bring you good news of **great joy** that will be for all the people. <sup>11</sup>Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; he is Christ the Lord.

<sup>12</sup>This will be a sign to you: You will find a baby wrapped in cloths and lying in a manger."

- Why do you think that the angel described the birth of Jesus as bringing great joy?**
- How does your faith in Jesus bring joy in your life?**

#### 2. Read Isaiah 7:14

Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign: The virgin will be with child and will give birth to a son, and will call him Immanuel (God with us).

#### Colossians 2:9

For in Christ all the fullness of the Deity lives in bodily form,

- Why is it important that Jesus is God?**
- Why is it important that Jesus is human?**

#### 3. Read Genesis 1:1 In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth.

#### John 3:16

For God so loved the world that He gave His one and only Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish but have eternal life.

- Why would the God who created the universe, care about you?**
- How does this make you feel?**

**4. Read Matthew 11: 4 - 5**

<sup>4</sup>Jesus replied, "Go back and report to John what you hear and see: <sup>5</sup>The blind receive sight, the lame walk, those who have leprosy are cured, the deaf hear, the dead are raised, and the good news is preached to the poor.

**Matthew 11: 12 - 13**

<sup>12</sup>From the days of John the Baptist until now, the kingdom of heaven has been forcefully advancing, and forceful men lay hold of it. <sup>13</sup>For all the Prophets and the Law prophesied until John.

**John 20:27 - 28**

<sup>27</sup>Then He said to Thomas, "Put your finger here; see My hands. Reach out your hand and put it into My side. Stop doubting and believe." <sup>28</sup>Thomas said to him, "My Lord and my God!"

- a. While the decision to believe that Jesus' was the Messiah ultimately comes from faith, what would you say are logical reasons to believe?**
- b. How does having hard evidence affect your faith? Your ability to share your faith?**

**5. Read Matthew 2: 63 - 64**

<sup>63</sup>But Jesus remained silent. The high priest said to him, "I charge you under oath by the living God: Tell us if you are the Christ, the Son of God." <sup>64</sup>"Yes, it is as you say," Jesus replied. "But I say to all of you: In the future you will see the Son of Man sitting at the right hand of the Mighty One and coming on the clouds of heaven."

**If one day Jesus will be revealed to everyone, but we don't know when, how should we live now?**

**6. Read the BiG iDEA:**

Christmas reveals the mystery that the Messiah is the Son of God who is the only one able to save the world. Jesus *is* that Messiah.

**Jesus reveals the mystery of the Messiah.**

**Have the group share how Jesus was/is revealed in their lives. (For example - in the Bible, a friend sharing, Church, answered prayer, etc)**

// **Application** \_\_\_\_\_

**Read and commit to memory Luke 2:11**

Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; he is Christ the Lord.

**Pray and purpose to see Jesus revealed as you read the Bible daily.**

// **Prayer** \_\_\_\_\_

- **Thank God for revealing the Messiah in Jesus.**
- **Pray that you would see Jesus revealed as you read the Bible.**