# **WEEKLY CELL GUIDE**

Member's Copy

Series - Date - 27-Dec-2020

Topic - Don't Miss Christmas! (Luke 2:1-7)

Speaker - Ps John Koe

## **WELCOME** [15 min]

You may want to look up the following websites for icebreakers suitable for your cell.

Ice Breakers 1
Ice Breakers 2

#### WORSHIP [15 min]

You may select songs like

- 1. Glorious One
- 2. Great is the Lord

## WORD [45 min]

# **Spiritual Objectives**

At the end of the sermon discussion, cell members will:

- 1. Be reminded of the true meaning of Christmas
- 2. To be deliberate in reaching out to pre-believers as a cell.

#### Sermon Summary

Many of us celebrate Christmas but often lose sight of the true meaning of Christmas. Pastor John preaches from Luke 2:1-7 and shared the different reasons people could miss Christmas – 1) Rejection of God, 2) Ignorance of the Truth, 3) Busyness and self-preoccupation and 4) Familiarity.

# **Sermon Recap (Full Summary)**

Many of us celebrate Christmas but often lose sight of the true meaning of Christmas. Through Christmas, we are reminded of the majestic love of our Heavenly Father - how Jesus came in flesh to save us from our sins by dying for us on the Cross; so that we may be redeemed and reconciled with Him.

Pastor John preached from Luke 2:1-7 and shared with us some observations made: It was likely Joseph and Mary had lived with their relatives while at Bethlehem. It was unlikely that there were inns at Bethlehem as it was a small town. It was also likely that they were not rushing to give birth (like how we have understood the Christmas story to be). It was likely an extended stay and the time had come for her to give birth. Pastor John also shared that there was "no guest room available" (CSV) instead of "inn" in other translations. It was also likely to be common that people and animals lived close to each other.

Pastor John shared about the different reasons the people in Joseph and Mary's time missed Christmas

1) Rejection of God (against Christianity, the gospel)



- The people may have despised Joseph and Mary (unwed pregnancy) if they had not known about the divine conception of Christ. In the same way, people may not know about Christ and may reject Him in their hearts. We need to keep them in prayer so that they will come to know Christ.
- 2) Ignorance of the Truth
  - We may know the Truth but choose to ignore it.
- 3) Busyness and self-preoccupation
  - Busyness and preoccupation may sometimes distract us from the most important thing of knowing Christ.
- 4) Familiarity
  - We can be so familiar with the Christmas message that we lose sight of the initial awe we had of God's great love towards us.

Pastor John exhorted us not to miss Christmas and to never lose the childlike wonder we have of God.

#### **Discussion Questions**

1. Pastor John shares about the different reasons we may "miss Christmas". Which of these pointers do yu identify with? [15 min]

- 2. God intervened in human history 2000 years ago when no one expected it. What are some habits / reminders you can put in your life or in your spiritual friendships to help encourage each other to look out for God's intervention in our lives? [10 mins]
- 3. Are there people in your life who have yet to know God or have turned away from the faith due to various reasons? Share with the cell about 1- 2 of these pre-believing friends that matter to you and take some time to pray for them. Also, discuss as a cell how you can reach out to these individuals together (eg. organise events, outings, etc.) [10 min]

# WORKS [10 min]

Let's pray:

- 1. Pray that:
- As believers, we will be proactive in reaching out to our pre-believing loved ones.
- We will make time to reach out to these individuals each year as a cell.

#### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

## **No Watch Night Service**

Due to government restrictions on in-person gatherings, we regret to inform that there will be NO Watch Night Service this year.

# **Church Vision**

"A radiant disciple-making church catalysing Kingdom transformation in our communities and the nations."

## Mission

We exist to make disciples who behold Christ and reveal Him.

