

WEEK 2

SMALL GROUP GUIDE

GOOD THINGS

Christmas is almost here! Which means there's a lot for us to look forward to – sometimes impatiently. But you know the saying, "good things come to those who wait"? It's true for Christmases now, but it was true on the very first Christmas as well. You see, the day Jesus came to earth wasn't a sudden surprise. It was the first step in a long-awaited plan. In this 4-week series, we'll hear the Christmas story from the perspective of the prophets in the Old Testament, who foretold and then waited for the good things God had in store. Christmas is a reminder of what the prophets proclaimed: that **God has always had a plan**, that **Jesus completes God's plan**, that **God's plans bring joy**, and that **God's plans require sacrifice**.

THIS WEEK

THE BIG IDEA

Jesus completes God's plan.

THE BIBLE

Malachi 3:1-2; Mark 1:1-8; Matthew 1:21-23;
II Peter 3:9

- **What's the worst Christmas gift you've ever received?**
- **What does your family usually end up fighting about during the holidays?**
- **Be honest – when you're fighting with your family, do you ever make the situation worse? How?**
- **How would you define the word "sin"? What does sin have to do with Christmas?**
- **How would you explain God's plan to solve our sin problem?**
- **Read II Peter 3:9. What does this passage show us about God's character?**
- **Is it harder for you to forgive yourself for your mistakes or forgive other people for theirs? Why do you think that is?**
- **Is there anyone you need to forgive right now? What's stopping you from doing that?**
- **Is there anything sinful in your life right now that you need to abandon? What would help you do that?**
- **This week, what's one way you can let Jesus rescue you from your sin?**