

# Small Groups

## DISCUSSION GUIDE

### “A SAVIOR IN A MANGER” - PART 1

PASTOR BLACKBURN AND PASTOR JEFF SELLERS – DECEMBER 1, 2024

#### **AS THE DISCUSSION LEADER, THERE ARE A FEW THINGS TO KEEP IN MIND:**

- Pray for your group discussion time!
- Choose a few questions from the guide that will generate the most discussion in your group.

#### **GETTING TO KNOW ME (ICEBREAKER):**

- What are your plans for Christmas 2024?

#### **DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:**

- Have someone read Matthew 2:1-12.
- The wise men brought gold, frankincense, and myrrh to Jesus. How do you understand the symbolism of these gifts to who Jesus is?
- What do you think the gift of frankincense reveals about Jesus' role as our High Priest?
- The sermon emphasizes the holiness of God and the reality of sin. Why do you think it's essential for us to understand these aspects of God's nature?
- How can our understanding of God's holiness change how we approach sin and our relationship with God?
- Hebrews 4:14-15 says that Jesus understands our weaknesses and sympathizes with our pain. How does this truth impact your view of Jesus as fully divine and fully human?
- As mentioned in the message, how can we lean on Jesus for comfort during emotional or physical pain?
- Hebrews 4:16 encourages us to confidently approach God's throne to receive mercy and grace. What does it mean to approach God confidently, and how can we cultivate that confidence in our prayer life?
- A star led the wise men to Jesus. In what ways do you see God leading you to Jesus today? How can we stay sensitive to His guidance in our own lives?
- How does the story of the wise men and their gifts help us understand the significance of Christmas beyond the manger scene?

#### **PRAY FOR OUR MISSIONARIES:**

- Sam & Shellie Bowdoin – *Southeast Asia*
- Gerald & Madaline Branum – *Europe*

#### **UPCOMING EVENTS:**

**Salvation Army Bell Ringing - Publix** – If you want to help, sign up at the Salvation Army table in the lobby.

**Sunday, December 8, 5 PM – Christmas Town** - Free entry, Santa Bucks will be available for food.