



CHRISTMAS STORIES OF HOPE

AN INVITATION

Like many others, you may have a spiritual hunger and curiosity to not only know God but allow Him to transform your life. You may even have an interest in sharing this with others. We have seen hundreds of people's lives transformed through this simple process that we are sharing with you. We would like to provide you with a simple tool called a **Discovery Group** to help you and others around you experience hope.

You can do this anywhere—at home, restaurant, jail cell, or a park. Please let us know about your experience in starting a group. Contact us with your questions.

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Learning to facilitate a Group Discovery

1. Ask the CONNECT questions
2. Get people to read the passage, let them decide how. The best is for everyone to be involved in the reading.
3. Ask someone in the group to restate the passage in his/her own words. Choose this person randomly and do not forewarn. This way, everyone will concentrate on the passage because they may be chosen to give the summary.
4. Ask the others to add anything important that this person left out, or to add any other thoughts about the passage.
5. Ask the DISCOVERY questions: work through each verse or paragraph in the passage and ask people what it says and what it means. Keep coming back to the passage – do not allow them to drift off. Should they drift off, bring them back with questions like: "Where does it say that in this passage?"
6. Give people a few minutes (3 minutes is good) to consider how they will obey this passage. Then have everyone share their obedience ("I will") statement.
7. Ask the APPLY AND PERSON questions

CHRISTMAS HOPE

CONNECT

What are you thankful for? What is causing stress in your life right now?

DISCOVER

JOHN 1:1-18

Jesus *before* Bethlehem

SCRIPTURE Read the passage. What does the passage say? (repeat it in your own words)

OBSERVE What do you think the passage means? What do you learn about God? What do you learn about people?

APPLY (If this is God is speaking to you...) What will you do about it? How can we show kindness to one another? Who else can we show kindness to?

PERSON Who can we tell and how will we tell what we are learning?

CHRISTMAS HOPE

CONNECT

How did God show up in your life this week? Were there any lessons you applied or shared? What are you thankful for? What is causing stress in your life right now?

DISCOVER

LUKE 1:5-25

The Birth of John Foretold

SCRIPTURE Read the passage. What does the passage say? (repeat it in your own words)

OBSERVE What do you think the passage means? What do you learn about God? What do you learn about people?

APPLY (If this is God is speaking to you...) What will you do about it? How can we show kindness to one another? Who else can we show kindness to?

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DISCOVER

LUKE 1:26-38

Angel Appears to Mary

SCRIPTURE Read the passage. What does the passage say? (repeat it in your own words)

OBSERVE What do you think the passage means? What do you learn about God? What do you learn about people?

APPLY (If this is God speaking to you...) What will you do about it? How can we show kindness to one another? Who else can we show kindness to?

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DISCOVER MATTHEW 1:18-25 Angel appears to Joseph

SCRIPTURE Read the passage. What does the passage say? (repeat it in your own words)

OBSERVE What do you think the passage means? What do you learn about God? What do you learn about people?

APPLY (If this is God is speaking to you...) What will you do about it? How can we show kindness to one another? Who else can we show kindness to?

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DISCOVER

LUKE 1:39-58

Mary and Mary's Joy

SCRIPTURE Read the passage. What does the passage say? (repeat it in your own words)

OBSERVE What do you think the passage means? What do you learn about God? What do you learn about people?

APPLY (If this is God speaking to you...) What will you do about it? How can we show kindness to one another? Who else can we show kindness to?

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DISCOVER

LUKE 1:57-80

John's Birth

SCRIPTURE Read the passage. What does the passage say? (repeat it in your own words)

OBSERVE What do you think the passage means? What do you learn about God? What do you learn about people?

APPLY (If this is God speaking to you...) What will you do about it? How can we show kindness to one another? Who else can we show kindness to?

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DISCOVER

LUKE 2:1-22

The Birth of Jesus

SCRIPTURE Read the passage. What does the passage say? (repeat it in your own words)

OBSERVE What do you think the passage means? What do you learn about God? What do you learn about people?

APPLY (If this is God speaking to you...) What will you do about it? How can we show kindness to one another? Who else can we show kindness to?

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DISCOVER LUKE 2:22-52 Jesus Presented at the Temple

SCRIPTURE Read the passage. What does the passage say? (repeat it in your own words)

OBSERVE What do you think the passage means? What do you learn about God? What do you learn about people?

APPLY (If this is God is speaking to you...) What will you do about it? How can we show kindness to one another? Who else can we show kindness to?

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DISCOVER MATTHEW 2:1-23 Wise Men Visit Jesus

SCRIPTURE Read the passage. What does the passage say? (repeat it in your own words)

OBSERVE What do you think the passage means? What do you learn about God? What do you learn about people?

APPLY (If this is God is speaking to you...) What will you do about it? How can we show kindness to one another? Who else can we show kindness to?

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