

DATE: December 10th, 2023

TITLE: God With Us

SCRIPTURE: Matthew 1:18-25

SPEAKER: Patrick Mostek

FAITH COMMUNITY CHURCH SMALL GROUP DISCUSSION GUIDE

OPENING PRAYER

ICE BREAKER: Who in your group is traveling the furthest for the holidays this year? Who are you going to see?

THINK BACK: Referring back to this week's sermon... What is the BIG IDEA of the Scripture AS IT WAS TAUGHT THIS WEEK? Was there anything that left you with questions?

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

Read Matthew 1:18-25

1. In the sermon, Patrick said that everyone has to make a decision about Jesus. And no decision is a decision. Do you agree with this statement? What Scripture would you use to make your point?
2. Why do so many people struggle with Jesus being God? What alternatives do they offer about Jesus? What Bible verses would you point to show Jesus is God?
3. Why is it important that Christians believe in and teach the deity of Jesus?
4. Why is Jesus' name significant?
5. How does the deity of Christ compel Christian obedience? Can you give an example of how considering Christ has changed the way you acted?
6. What did Jesus cost Joseph? Should Jesus cost us something? What has Jesus cost you?
7. What did Joseph gain through his faith?

APPLICATION

Think about what most caught your attention in the text or discussion. Why is God catching your attention with this at this point in your life? What does God want you to know or do? What's one thing from this text that you could say to an unbeliever about who God is?

PRAYER

Ask people for specific prayer requests. Pray for needs and for applications of the text. Ask for volunteers who would like to pray for those people and requests.

SHEPHERDING

Check the roster and see who is not there. Does the group know why someone is not there? Are there needs that can be met by the group? Specific prayer requests? Ask for someone to reach out and say, "We missed you."

REMINDERS

Small Group Checklist

- Ask about ideas to serve in some way together. Serve 1x every six weeks or so.
- Encourage people to invite friends or neighbors to your group!! One way to reach 'out' together is to welcome people 'in.'
- Discuss childcare, if needed.
- Talk about any upcoming group meals or activities.

Check the bulletin, monthly newsletter and events page on the website for ways that you can get plugged in, as well as events here at FCC. Here are a couple of those things:

- **SIGN UPS: CHAOS Meals!** Have your small group sign up to sponsor a meal this year! Sign up online!
- **SIGN UP:** Each small group is being asked to sponsor 1 coffee hour for the year! Please talk about which month would work best and sign up! (Your small group leader has the link)
- Christmas Eve Services will be at 9am and 10:45am, with a Candlelight service at 5PM.
- Want to become a member at FCC? Registration is open for our next classes: December 12th, December 14th, and January 13th.