



### **How to use Talk It Over:**

Talking through the message during the week helps you and your Neighborhood Group turn what God is saying to you into action steps. Begin with the key questions, add any optional scriptures and questions if needed, and then wrap up by deciding on your next steps and pray.

### **Pastor Ryan's Main Idea**

**“The Birth of Christ was Outside our Box”**

### **Key Questions:**

- Describe a time when you had to think “Outside the Box”. Maybe it was for a project or assignment you had. Take out your bibles and read together Isaiah 55:8-9. How are these two verses encouraging to you?
- Read together Luke 2:1-7. Share what stands out and why.
- Read Luke 1:26-38 and Matthew 1:18-25 and discuss together the challenges that Joseph and Mary would face socially, physically, spiritually and financially. What unlikely circumstances is God using in your life right now for His plan in your life? How does the Gospel show that can you trust him with this?
- Look up Isaiah 7:14. This is one of the most famous prophecies given about Christ in the Old Testament. Read this passage along with Matthew 1:22-23. How does this fulfillment of God's promises strengthen your belief in God as a promise maker and promise keeper?
- Pastor Ryan talked about God choosing to reveal Christ, his greatest work in the worst of places. Why do you think God would do that in this type of place? How can this give us hope personally.

- Read Micah 6:8. Part of Imago Dei's focus this Christmas is serving the community we live in by providing food to those in need. So far the response has been great! Why is this important? Read Matthew 5:14-16! Read Galatians 6:10.
- As a Neighborhood Group, take time to pray with one another tonight for the hurting and lost in our neighborhoods. Pray for Gospel opportunities to do good to everyone, to demonstrate and declare the Gospel, to love people.

**Optional Questions:** If needed, include one or more of these scripture and/or questions to extend your conversation.

- Read Micah 5:2 and John 7:42. What do these passages say about the importance of Bethlehem? Use your bible or Google Maps to try and figure out how long it would take to get from Nazareth to Bethlehem.
- Does anyone need help with gathering a box of food?
- Are there neighbors that perhaps you could tell about feeding the hungry that perhaps would be interested in joining in?
- YouVersion Bible app has an advent reading entitled "Good News of Great Joy" from Desiring God Ministries. If you are looking for a daily Advent reading, its not too late to start. Look for it on your smartphone using this app!

**Next Step:**

- Bring a Box full of Food to help serve the hungry this Holiday Season!

**Next Week:**

- Pastor Ryan will continue in the series called Out of the Box from the gospel of Luke and don't forget that we will have "New Comer's Lunch." It's a great time to invite a friend and take to the lunch!

# DAILY BIBLE READINGS

Allow God to grow you in His word by reading the following Bible passages related to this week's message. You can also find a Bible Study book mark at the Resource Table to help you study the daily readings.

Day 1: Luke 2:1

Day 2: Isaiah 7:14

Day 3: Matthew 1:22-23

Day 4: Micah 5:2

Day 5: Matthew 2:1-6

Day 6: Matthew 1:18-25

Day 7: Luke 1:26-38