

# THE COMING KING



## GROUP DISCUSSION | Week 2: PEACE

### SERIES OVERVIEW

This 3-week series explores how Jesus's coming is a welcome invitation to everyone—the poor, unknown, rich, men, and women. To those who recognize him as he comes, he brings hope, peace, joy, and love. He is king.

### HOW TO USE THIS GUIDE:

Think of this discussion guide as a springboard. Use what's helpful to your group and lean into discussion that's sparked from the insight and input of your group.

### CONNECTION

How would you define "peace" and what comes to mind when you think of "peace?" Pause and share.

Peace is one of those words we easily throw around at Christmas time, but it's much harder to experience. On a scale of 1-10, with 1 being *overwhelmed with stress* and 10 being *completely at peace*, how would you honestly assess your life right now? If you don't mind sharing, what are some things contributing to your state of peace right now?

### TRUTH

One of the best examples of peace in the Christmas story comes from Mary, the mother of Jesus. While Mary is often synonymous with peace, her circumstance would have made it extremely difficult to actually remain peaceful. But she remains obedient. What's the connection with obedience and peace?

Read Luke 1:26-38 and while you do, try to notice how intentional, detail oriented, and personal God is. After reading or listening, share what stood out to you.

This "sixth month" timeline is significant because it connects Mary's story with Elizabeth's. Remember, Elizabeth, Mary's relative, is miraculously pregnant with who we'd come to know as John the Baptist, the forerunner of Jesus (feel free to read Luke 1:5-25). So when Mary discovers she's pregnant with Jesus, she goes to celebrate with Elizabeth. Why do you think that's significant? What does that tell you about God? What does it tell you about us?

### APPLICATION

Micah shared, "Most of us have enough head knowledge about God, what we lack is trust and obedience to God." What are the most common ways we're tempted to not trust or obey God? What's the danger in that? How do we combat that slippery slope?

A hallmark of Mary's faith was time spent with God. We talked about how "peace comes from time spent with God." That if we desire peace, it begins with being in God's presence. How can you take a step in being WITH God today, tomorrow, this week?

### CLOSE AND PRAY

Share in what areas you need peace and then spend some time in silence before someone closes in prayer.