



Ice Breaker (in groups of 2 or 3 for larger groups)

Share what your favorite Christmas treat is and why!

Talk About it!

QUESTION 1

Psalm 130:6 New Living Translation

6 I long for the Lord more than sentries long for the dawn, yes, more than sentries long for the dawn.

Psalm 27:13-14 New Living Translation

13 Yet I am confident I will see the Lord's goodness while I am here in the land of the living.

14 Wait patiently for the Lord. Be brave and courageous. Yes, wait patiently for the Lord.

Discuss:

In what way are you personally waiting on God for something? As you wait for the problem to be solved, how are you also waiting for the person of God Himself to satisfy you beyond the circumstance?

QUESTION 2

Luke 2:22-33 New Living Translation

22 Then it was time for their purification offering, as required by the law of Moses after the birth of a child; so his parents took him to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord. 23 The law of the Lord says, "If a woman's first child is a boy, he must be dedicated to the Lord." 24 So they offered the sacrifice required in the law of the Lord—"either a pair of turtledoves or two young pigeons." 25 At that time there was a man in Jerusalem named Simeon. He was righteous and devout and was eagerly waiting for the Messiah to come and rescue Israel. The Holy Spirit was upon him 26 and had revealed to him that he would not die until he had seen the Lord's Messiah. 27 That day the Spirit led him to the Temple. So when Mary and Joseph came to present the baby Jesus to the Lord as the law required, 28 Simeon was there. He took the child in his arms and praised God, saying,

29 "Sovereign Lord, now let your servant die in peace, as you have promised.

30 I have seen your salvation, 31 which you have prepared for all people.

32 He is a light to reveal God to the nations, and he is the glory of your people Israel!"

33 Jesus' parents were amazed at what was being said about him.

Discuss:

How is Simeon an inspiring part of the Christmas story to you?
In what way does his active waiting on God inspire or motivate you?



QUESTION 3

2 Corinthians 5:20-21 New Living Translation

20 So we are Christ's ambassadors; God is making his appeal through us. We speak for Christ when we plead, "Come back to God!" 21 For God made Christ, who never sinned, to be the offering for our sin, so that we could be made right with God through Christ.

Discuss:

How is being righteous a facet of actively waiting on God?

QUESTION 4

Mark 12:30 New Living Translation

30 And you must love the Lord your God with all your heart, all your soul, all your mind, and all your strength.'

Discuss:

What bad baggage does the word 'devout' sometimes carry?

What is the positive view of a life in Christ that is devout and how are you living 'devout' in Him?

QUESTION 5

2 Corinthians 5:7 New Living Translation

7 For we live by believing and not by seeing.

Discuss:

What does walking by faith look like in your life right now?

QUESTION 6

Ephesians 5:18-19 New Living Translation

18 Don't be drunk with wine, because that will ruin your life. Instead, be filled with the Holy Spirit, 19 singing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs among yourselves, and making music to the Lord in your hearts.

Discuss:

Have you experienced 'having the Holy Spirit on you' like Simeon? What gets in the way of experiencing Holy Spirit fullness? What tends to create space for experience of Holy Spirit in your life?