

## BIG IDEA

**Our anticipation for a savior leads to our love for the world.**

## WHAT DOES GOD WANT ME TO KNOW?

Does your family have any advent traditions that you do every year?

In what way has your life been marked by waiting? Why do you think waiting is such a common part of the human experience?

**Read Isaiah 9:1.** Why is the word “nevertheless” significant in this passage? Do you pay attention to these kinds of pivot words when you are reading the Bible on your own? Why or why not?

If you have enough time, challenge your LG members to find some other passages in the Bible where “nevertheless” is used. Alternatively, you could ask them to think of other words that might be good to look out for when they are studying (therefore, so that, yet, but, etc.).

**Read Isaiah 9:1-3.** How is God speaking through this passage of Scripture into your present circumstances?

**Read Isaiah 9:1-7.** How does the context of this famous Christmas passage (v.6) help you to better understand the promise of the coming of Jesus?

## WHAT IS MY INITIAL REACTION?

Take a closer look at **Isaiah 9:6**. Which of the titles of the Messiah most resonate with you from this passage? Why?

Reflect on this quote from the message as a group:

*“One of the clearest characteristics of people who follow God should be our ability to rely on His promises, no matter what’s going on around us.” - Caleb Baker*

Consider asking your group a follow-up question: If this were the standard for how Christians were recognized, would you be an obvious candidate? Why or why not?

## WHAT AM I GOING TO DO?

How is God calling you, specifically, to “live in the nevertheless?”





# LIFE GROUPS

## LEADER GUIDE

**Read Acts 1:6-11.** Where in your life do you need to shift from *waiting* to *anticipating*?

Are you living according to a deep conviction that God will come through on his promises (both to you and to the world)? How can those in your Life Group help you to lean fully into the promises of God?

Lean in to this opportunity to grow the level of accountability in your group. Set the tone for your group members by sharing first with authenticity.

