



LIFE GROUP DISCUSSION GUIDE

For the week of 11/26/2023

This week, we explore our relationship with time. We look at the difference between Chronos - the functional, linear measurement of minutes and hours - with Kairos - the more meaningful, God-ordained moments and opportunities. We see both concepts play out in the Christmas story as Joseph grapples with Mary's mystery pregnancy, the Magi following the star, and how the eternal nature of Jesus defies earthly time constraints. We look at the importance of carving out listening prayer and Scripture meditation amid our busy seasons.

After your group opens in prayer, please discuss any questions or thoughts that came to mind after hearing/watching the sermon and read the following passage:

1. **Reflect on your relationship with time:** How would you describe your relationship with time? Are you someone who embraces each moment or constantly tries to capitalize on every second?
2. Discuss the Kairos moments experienced by Mary and Joseph as described in the sermon. How did these moments shape their experiences amid Chronos time?

Read Matthew 1:18-25 *This is how the birth of Jesus the Messiah came about: His mother Mary was pledged to be married to Joseph, but before they came together, she was found to be pregnant through the Holy Spirit. 19 Because Joseph her husband was faithful to the law, and yet did not want to expose her to public disgrace, he had in mind to divorce her quietly. 20 But after he had considered this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, "Joseph son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary home as your wife, because what is conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. 21 She will give birth to a son, and you are to give him the name Jesus, because he will save his people from their sins." 22 All this took place to fulfill what the Lord had said through the prophet: 23 "The virgin will conceive and give birth to a son, and they will call him Immanuel" (which means "God with us"). 24 When Joseph woke up, he did what the angel of the Lord had commanded him and took Mary home as his wife. 25 But he did not consummate their marriage until she gave birth to a son. And he gave him the name Jesus.*

3. Even after Joseph heard from the Lord, he had to have the courage to obey. Talk about a time when you felt called or heard from the Lord but still had to find the courage to obey.

Read John 1:1-3 *In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. 2 He was with God in the beginning. 3 Through him all things were made; without him nothing was made that has been made.*

4. Reflect on the Gospel of John's introduction to Jesus, emphasizing His eternal nature. How does this perspective influence your understanding of Jesus and time?
5. **Hearing from the Lord:** Discuss the importance of hearing from the Lord in navigating life's challenges. How can you incorporate listening prayer and seeking God's guidance into your daily routine?
6. **Waiting on the Lord:** Share your thoughts on waiting on the Lord and trusting His timing. Are there areas in your life where you need to surrender control and patiently wait for God's guidance?
7. **Prayer and Repentance:** Is there anything related to time management that you need to confess, repent of, or seek forgiveness for? How can you replace negative patterns with God-ordained time?

As you close, share any challenges, encouragements, and needs. Close with prayer for one another.