

# Groups Discussion Guide

For the week of December 4-9



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## GETTING STARTED

1. What is your favorite Christmas tradition and why?
  
2. The Christmas season can be a stressful and busy time of year for many people. What are some ways you have found helpful to keep your focus on Jesus and his birth during this season?

## DIGGING DEEPER | John 19: Jesus is our sacrifice and hope

### 1. *Read John 19:16-30*

In these verses, what specific events does John indicate occurred in fulfillment of Old Testament prophecies concerning the Messiah? Can you think of other prophecies that were fulfilled in the birth, life, death or resurrection of Jesus?

2. What was the significance of Jesus being labeled the “King of the Jews,” and the religious leaders objecting to it?

3. What must it have been like for Mary, Jesus’ mother, to look upon Jesus while He endured crucifixion – one of the worst forms of execution ever devised?

4. What does it reveal about Jesus’ character that while he was occupied with the greatest task in the history of the world, our salvation, he makes certain that his mother is properly cared for?

5. *Read John 19:28-37*

What was Jesus' meaning behind his final words, "It is Finished!"?

6. *Read Hebrews 9:24-28*

How do these verses describe what Jesus has accomplished and what kind of impact do they have on you?

7. Many of us are familiar with the biblical account of the crucifixion. On the one hand, we want to avoid a morbid preoccupation with the gore of the cross. But how do we avoid the opposite problem of becoming desensitized to it all?

## **Personal Reflection**

Take time this week to worship God and thank him for his sacrifice for you.