

CHRIST- LifeGroup Discussion Guide MAS HAS A NAME

Sunday, December 3, 2017 – Michael Field & Becky White

ONE Question of the day

What is one thing you are looking forward to this holiday season?

TWO Recap of Sermon & Verses

Whether you attended service at MHS to hear Pastor Michael or HDC to hear Pastor Becky, today we learned one of the most significant names of God: *Immanuel*, God who is *with us*.

Pastor Michael talked about the implications of *Immanuel*, God with us for our problems, our plans, and our obedience. Because God is with us, God uses the problems and discomfort we face to enact His plans. While reminding us who we are, God invites us into His plans. Our proper response to that invitation is obedience, without worrying about the outcome or trying to control the process.

Pastor Becky talked about the ways that God shows that He is *Immanuel*, God with us. God is present with people, always near to us despite the wins and losses we face. God is present throughout time, in every moment of exile and every promised land. God is present in improbable events, demonstrating His faithfulness to His people.

THREE Questions

- Which service did each of you attend? What stood out to you from the sermon? Spend some time recapping the main points that you heard.
- Re-read Matthew 1 as a LifeGroup. What do we learn about God as *Immanuel* from this text?
- Where have you seen a problem that God could be using to unfold His plans?
- What are some of the obstacles we face when God invites us into His plans?
- Where is God asking you to obey without attachment to the outcome?
- What makes it difficult to believe that God is present with His people?
- What is the significance for our lives knowing that God is with us?
- If your group has been using the Advent Devotional, which name has been the most significant to you so far? What changes for you knowing that God is the *Good Shepherd*, the great *I AM*, and *Immanuel*?

FOUR Prayer

Have everyone share their holiday plans. Is anyone heading into their first Christmas season after the loss of a loved one? Can your group provide additional care and support for anyone this month? Spend some time in prayer and call God by this name, *Immanuel*.

