

## Incarnate, God With Us

### **Intro Questions**

- What's a moment in your life where someone's presence—just being with you—made a difference?
- When you were a kid, what made you feel safe when you were scared?
- Where is a place that makes you feel more grounded in life?

### **Scripture: Hebrews 1:3a**

*<sup>3</sup>He is the reflection of God's glory and the exact imprint of God's very being, and he sustains all things by his powerful word.*

### **Discussion Questions**

- Hebrews says that Jesus is the “exact imprint” of God. What does it mean to you that God chose to be fully seen in Jesus?
- How does the idea of “God with us” change the way you think about God's character?
- Where in your life now do you experience God's presence?
- Where in your life are you seeking God's presence the most?
- When is a previous moment in your life where God has felt distant? Did you ever feel God show up, or were you left searching? What did that feel like?
- What would it look like for your group to both recognize that God is with you, and for you to also be with each other more deeply?
- How might Advent sharpen our awareness of God's presence in moments of searching, waiting, and uncertainty?

### **Questions to Ponder This Week**

- Where will I intentionally seek God's presence this week?
- What areas of my life feel “off-limits” to God, and why?
- Who might need me to be a sign of God's presence with them?

## Incarnate, God In Us

### **Intro Questions**

- What's a talent/gift you didn't realize you had until later in life?
- If your personality was a Christmas decoration, what would it be and why?
- What's something that lifts you up—emotionally, spiritually, or physically?

### **Scripture: Colossians 2:9**

*<sup>9</sup>For in him the whole fullness of deity dwells bodily...*

### **Discussion Questions**

- If the fullness of God dwells in Christ, and Christ dwells in us, what does that say about our identity?
- How does “God in us” differ from “God with us”? What does it add?
- What are the barriers that keep us from believing that God actually dwells within us?
- How does the dwelling of God within us reshape how we see our worth, purpose, and potential?
- Where do you see evidence—however small—of God working within you right now?
- What might change in your daily life if you truly believed and lived with God's fullness within you?
- What spiritual practices can help us awaken our awareness of God in us? How can you as a group keep each other accountable to these practices?

### **Questions to Ponder This Week**

- What is one place in my life where I need to invite God's presence within me more intentionally?
- How will I cultivate space for God's voice to speak in me this week?
- What part of my identity needs reshaping by the truth of Christ in me?

## Incarnate, God Through Us

## **Intro Questions**

- Who is someone in your life who reflects God's love especially well?
- What's something you've accomplished that surprised you?
- When have you felt like you were a vessel for something bigger than yourself?

## **Scripture: John 14:9**

*<sup>9</sup> Jesus said to him, "Have I been with you all this time, Philip, and you still do not know me? Whoever has seen me has seen the Father. How can you say, 'Show us the Father'?"*

## **Discussion Questions**

- Jesus reveals the Father—what does it mean that Jesus now invites you to reveal God to others?
- What does it practically look like for God to work through ordinary people?
- Where have you recently experienced God working through your actions, words, or presence? What about how you've seen God work through others?
- What fears or insecurities get in the way of being a vessel for God?
- How does understanding the incarnation of Jesus challenge our assumptions about who God can work through?
- How might our church better reflect God to our neighbors?
- What would it look like for God to work through your life in a surprising way this Advent?

## **Questions to Ponder This Week**

- Where is God inviting me to be a reflection of Christ this week?
- How will I stay aware so I don't miss opportunities for God to work through me?
- What one action can I take to embody Christ to someone in need this week?

# Incarnate, God Among Us

## **Intro Questions**

- What's a group or community where you have felt like you truly belonged? (Try not to just say Mosaic!)
- If you had to describe your personality as a part of the body, what would it be?
- What's a time when being a part of a group helped you do something you couldn't do alone?

## **Scripture: 1 Corinthians 12:27**

*<sup>27</sup>Now you are the body of Christ and individually members of it.*

## **Discussion Questions**

- What does it mean for the church to say that we are the body of Christ together?
- How does the idea of “God among us” depend on community rather than individual faith alone?
- Where have you seen the body of Christ at its best—really embodying Jesus among people?
- How does diversity of gifts and identities strengthen our ability to show Christ to the world?
- What are challenges that keep us from living as one united body?
- How does the incarnation call us to be present with and for one another?
- Where is one area where your group could grow in truly living as Christ's body among our neighbors?

## **Questions to Ponder This Week**

- How am I contributing to the life of the body of Christ right now?
- Who in my community do I need to be present with in a deeper way?
- What is one way I can embody Jesus to someone around me this week?