

REFLECTION GUIDE

12.3.23

INTRO

The Christmas story didn't begin with shepherds, wise men, and a young couple without a place to have their baby. It began much earlier than that, and it was more epic than anyone could have imagined!

THOUGHTS

PRAYER

Loving God, help me to remember that the story of Christmas began with an incredible promise to Abraham that you fulfilled in Jesus Christ. Thank you for always keeping your promises and for this history-changing gift that is continually changing my life. Build my faith during this special season of Advent. Amen.

DIGGING DEEPER

- How do you feel heading into this Christmas season? Is this a positive or negative time for you?
- Do you find it difficult to believe the details of the Christmas story? Why or why not?
- Talk about a time when God seemed silent or distant in your life. What happened? What did that experience do to your faith?
- Genesis 12:1-3 says, "The LORD said to Abram, 'Leave your land, your family, and your father's household for the land that I will show you. I will make of you a great nation and will bless you. I will make your name respected, and you will be a blessing. I will bless those who bless you, those who curse you I will curse; all the families of the earth will be blessed because of you.'" [CEB] In what ways does God's promise to Abraham change our view of the Christmas story?
- Isaiah 49:6 says, "He says, 'You will do more than restore the people of Israel to me. I will make you a light to the Gentiles, and you will bring my salvation to the ends of the earth.'" [NLT] What does this verse tell you about God's character?
- What can you do this season to focus on the meaning of the Christmas story to our culture and in your life?

