"God's Faithfulness Beyond Exile"

(1) Getting Started	(3) Digging Deeper
Prayer Requests • Take prayer requests and spend time as a group in prayer, either at the beginning or end of the meeting. **Group Plans** • **Leader**: Discuss what the month of December will look like for your group. This may be a good time to enjoy a meal together or do something special like wrap and deliver Angel Tree gifts. • Decide when your last meeting will be for the month.	**Read** • Read the following passages in Isaiah and discuss whether each one was fulfilled in Jesus' First Coming or is yet to be fulfilled in His Second Coming. • Isaiah 9:6-7 • Isaiah 11:1-4 • Isaiah 40:1-5 • Isiaah 42:1-4 • Isaiah 53:1-12 • Isaiah 61:1-2
(2) Read Scripture	(4) Application
Read • Matthew 1:1 & 1:17 • Luke 3:23; 3:38 **Discuss** • How do the ways Matthew and Luke's genealogies begin and end reveal the points each are trying to make with them? • Does understanding "structure" help you understand why each has ordered them the way they have. Why or why not? • How might God's covenant with Abraham and David encourage the people who were in exile in Babylon? What about the people Matthew was writing to at the time of Roman occupation?	**Questions** • In what ways are we exiles here on earth? (1 Pet 1:1, 17) • Do you ever feel like God has forgotten you, or forgotten His promises to you? In what ways? • How does knowing that 2,000 years passed between God's covenant with Abraham and God's fulfilling that promise in Jesus give us comfort that it's been 2,000 years since Jesus promised that He would return to us? • What are you most looking forward to when Jesus returns? What are you most looking forward to Him doing? • Close in prayer. (Revelation 22:20)