

CONNECT GROUP DISCUSSION GUIDE

Week #2 - When You Can't Imagine a Way Forward



GETTING STARTED

We all have those Christmas moments we can predict (tangled lights, chaotic family photos). Share a funny or memorable Christmas tradition (or disaster!) that you can “imagine” happening every single year.

THIS WEEK'S THEME

We've heard the Christmas story so many times it can start to feel predictable. What part of the Christmas story have you become so used to that it's easy to overlook how shocking or unexpected it really is?

Hans said that no one in the ancient world was imagining a story like Jesus' - a virgin birth, a peasant family, shepherds as first guests, God becoming flesh. Which detail of the Christmas story feels most “unimaginable” to you? Why?

Read Matthew 1:18-25. Joseph had three possible paths: Publicly expose Mary (what everyone expected), quietly divorce her (the compassionate option) or stay with her (the unimaginable option). Which option do you think you would have chosen? Why do you think God so often invites people into a “third option” - the unexpected one?

Hans talked about moments in our lives where we can't imagine a way forward - broken relationships, grief, strained finances, health scares, family tension. Where in your life does the situation feel unimaginable to overcome right now?

When you hit a dead end, what do you tend to imagine first? Worst-case scenario? Another disappointment? That nothing can change? How do those “default stories” shape your hope? What would it look like to leave room for God to write a different ending?

Jesus came to show us The Way - the life we were created for. Where do you need Jesus to show you “the way” in this season? How would believing “the unimaginable is possible” change how you move forward?

TAKING IT HOME

This week, what is one area of your life where you will intentionally choose to believe, pray, or act as if “the unimaginable is possible”?

PRAY

Jesus, thank You for breaking into our world with a way we never no one imagined. When we feel stuck or hopeless, remind us that You still make a way where there seems to be no way. Help us trust You like Joseph did, even when the path seems impossible. Give us eyes to see the unimaginable becoming possible. Amen.