

# THE BIG GIVE

Group Guide:  
Week 3

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## HOW TO USE THIS GUIDE

There are four components to a healthy group: Word, prayer, relationships, and reaching out. In this guide, we will study 2 Corinthians 1 and Matthew 1 using inductive Bible study, which has three components: observation, interpretation, and application. As the leader of your group, feel free to use whatever parts of this guide most help you do this!

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## CONNECT *BREAK THE ICE AND GET PEOPLE TALKING*

- Share about a time when someone kept (or didn't keep) an important promise to you.
- Is there a word/phrase to sum up your life in 2023?
- Discipleship check-in:
  - Have you prayed and read your Bible consistently the past week?
  - Who is someone you're praying to share Jesus with this week, and what's one way you can love them well?

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## INTRODUCTION

Now that we are in the Christmas season, we will be taking time as a church to look at what it means for our God to be a giver. The Bible talks a lot about God's people being givers, but we will fail at giving if we do not first understand and internalize what it means for Jesus to be a giver. Over the course of the series we will be looking at five ways that God is a giver: life, help, promise, self, and hope.

In week three of the Big Give series we will reflect on what it means for our God to be a giver (and keeper) of promises.

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## OBSERVATIONS *WHAT DOES THE TEXT SAY?*

READ: 2 Corinthians 1:12-22

DISCUSS:

- What does the passage say about the promise of God (vs. "plans according to the flesh", v. 17)?

READ: Matthew 1:18-23

DISCUSS:

- Summarize the circumstances surrounding Jesus' birth, and how it "fulfilled what the Lord had spoken by the prophet" (v. 22)
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*INTERPRETATION* WHAT DOES THE TEXT MEAN?

DISCUSS:

- What does it mean to behave in the world with simplicity and godly sincerity (v. 12)?
  - Read verses 18-19. What does it mean that "our word to you has not been Yes and No... but in [Jesus Christ] it is always Yes"?
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*APPLICATION* WHAT DO WE DO NEXT?

DISCUSS:

- Is there a promise you've received from God?
  - To what/whom are you turning to find a "Yes" to that promise? Is there something or someone other than Jesus you're turning to for that "Yes"?
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*PRAYER*

Praise Jesus that in him all promises of God find their Yes. Pray for faith to utter our Amen to God for his glory.