



# TURN *the* PAGE

## SESSION 10 - FROM LEAST TO LOVED

### MESSAGE BIG IDEA

“Turn the Page” by embracing your identity as the one Jesus loves.

### SCRIPTURE

Luke 2:8-20

### ICEBREAKER AND OPENING THOUGHT

Use these questions to break the ice in your group, get everyone talking, and then to gradually introduce the main idea around our identity being rooted in how God sees us.

### BIBLE DISCUSSION

The story of Jesus’ birth is the most well-known story from the New Testament. It’s filled with a cast of characters that inform our idea around celebrating Christmas – the wise ones, the shepherds, the angels, Mary, Joseph, and Jesus. It’s easy to see it as trite or so familiar that we no longer hear the amazing scandal it was for the world – God came in flesh! To normal people! It often feels like it happened so long ago that it couldn’t have happened in our world, help your group to see that God is accessible to each of us, that this story could have played out in our own backyards. If that happened, where would they have been?

### LIFE APPLICATION

Identity can be difficult to discuss, so be prepared to go first and talk about some of the ways you’ve built your identity in the past. It’s hard for all of us to root ourselves in God and to truly feel like we “the one Jesus loves” as it says in John 13:23. Yet we’re all loved. That’s our true identity.

Some ways people might have based their self-worth on harmful ideas could be: the one who must succeed, the one who must please, the one who must look good, the one who must be wanted, the one who must serve, the one who doesn’t matter. Each of these ideas are harmful, but also very insidious.

Remember the goal of a small group isn’t to have people confessing their sins, but hopefully to encourage everyone to talk at some point and to know that this is a safe place for discussion, vulnerability, and growth.

### CHALLENGE

This Christmas season, let’s put away the status-symbols and the status-seeking and seek to see ourselves as God sees us, as dearly beloved children. We reflect on this time remembering how God became a child, incarnated as fully-human and fully-God, to show us a better, deeper way. How can you reflect your true identity and begin to live into what’s already the truth?