

LIFE GROUP STUDY GUIDE:

(60-minute session—12-11-22)

Welcome to our December Message series: *Christmas*. Over the next several weeks, we are going to walk through several Scriptures from the Old Testament into the New, in order to discover why Christmas is such a big deal. Enjoy!

Group Share Time: What do people mean when they talk about “Epic-fails”? Take a few minutes and talk about an epic-fail in your own life.

As part of our Christmas series, we are going to look at an epic-fail in the lives of God’s OT people. We will also look at and learn from a gracious God who meets us in those epic-failures with great expectations.

1. A Great _____: **Read Isaiah 9:1-2**

What was the spiritual state of God’s people at the time of Isaiah’s prophecy?

Talk about words or phrases that stood out.

2. A Great _____: **Read Isaiah 9:3-5**

What is God communicating in the verses above?

Share some reasons why God’s people should be joyful? What kinds of things threaten our joy?

In what ways do you see people held captive today? Why do some people struggle with the freedom that God offers?

3. A Great _____: **Read Isaiah 9:6-7**

What do we learn about Jesus in v6-7?

Of the names and facts listed about Jesus in v6, which encourage you most in your walk with God? How has Jesus, the promised child of this passage, fulfilled this prophecy and made the dark world “light up”?

QUESTION: How does this ancient text touch our lives?

- 1.) The Great _____ Has Been Made _____ To All:
- 2.) The Great _____ Comes When You Know That Your _____ Have Been Lifted:
- 3.) The Great _____ Can Be Totally _____ At Every Turn In Life:



Rooted Groups: What Rooted rhythm/s were connected to the lesson above? How can we encourage one another in the practice of these rhythms?