# **Unwrapping Christmas**

Rev. Jason Seales November 29, 2009

### Scripture: Phil. 2:5-11

<sup>5</sup>Your attitude should be the same as that of Christ Jesus:
<sup>6</sup>Who, being in very nature<sup>-</sup> God, did not consider equality with God something to be grasped,
<sup>7</sup>but made himself nothing, taking the very nature of a servant, being made in human likeness.
<sup>8</sup>And being found in appearance as a man, he humbled himself and became obedient to death—even death on a cross!
<sup>9</sup>Therefore God exalted him to the highest place and gave him the name that is above every name,
<sup>10</sup>that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth,
<sup>11</sup>and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord,

to the glory of God the Father.

# **Group Session**

## **Opening Questions**

What comes to your mind when you hear the word "Christmas"? What do you like or hate about the holiday?

#### Discussing the Scripture & Life

- 1. What does our culture believe Christmas to be all about?
- 2. Do you feel that our culture's practice of celebrating Christmas belittles who Jesus really is?
- 3. As I read the Scripture for today, listen and tell me what phrases truly exhibit what Christmas is all about.
- 4. In Luke 1:26, Mary responds with worship after Gabriel announces the future birth of Jesus through her, despite all the stresses of the coming event. In the midst of the stress Christmas adds to our lives, are we able to worship Christ in the middle of the event?
- 5. Christmas is about worship, not want. How can we as believers help others see the true meaning of Christmas?
- 6. Isaiah 6:1-5 gives us a good picture of true worship. Read that passage aloud. What observations do you make about Isaiah's reaction to being in God's presence?

#### **Closing Challenge**

Plan time this holiday season to truly worship during the holiday season. In what ways can we do that?