

# TALK IT OVER

## HOW TO LOOK FORWARD TO CHRISTMAS

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Open your group in prayer, and remember that this is only a guide. Feel free to discuss each of the provided questions in the message notes, or simply dive deeper into just one. Before you close with prayer, take a few minutes to look over the Three Essential Questions towards the end of the document.

### Look forward to a Romans 8 Christmas!

#### 1. A NO CONDEMNATION CHRISTMAS

##### Talk It Over

*"Therefore, there is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus." Romans 8:1 (NIV)*

##### Question 1

Why does knowing God forgives us help you forgive yourself for not measuring up to your own expectations? Why is it hard to accept and remember that God never condemns us and how does that make you feel?

#### 2. A NO FEAR CHRISTMAS

##### Talk It Over

*"But the angel said to them, 'Do not be afraid. I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people.'" Luke 2:10 (NIV)*

##### Question 2

Why is it difficult to let go of fears even though God tells us not to be afraid? What are your greatest fears at this time that God wants to replace with joy?

#### 3. A FULL OF HOPE CHRISTMAS

##### Talk It Over

*"The LORD is near to those who are discouraged;  
he saves those who have lost all hope." Psalm 34:18 (TEV)*

##### Question 3

What is the difference between wishing for change and putting hope in God? What do you have hope for at this time?

#### 4. A GOD IS WORKING CHRISTMAS

##### Talk It Over

*“And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose.” Romans 8:28 (NIV)*

##### Question 4

Have you seen God take a problem in your life and transform it for good this year? What are you going to give to God to ‘work for the good’ in 2021?

#### 5. A GOD IS WITH ME CHRISTMAS

##### Talk It Over

*“The virgin will conceive and give birth to a son, and they will call him Immanuel’ (which means ‘God with us’).” Matthew 1:23 (NIV)*

##### Question 5

What are you feeling separated from at this time? How can we encourage or show others that are suffering this Christmas that God’s love is with them?

## Three Essential Questions

The following questions are intended to be open-ended and encourage members to consider how they felt and what they, or the group, can do as a result of hearing the message!

1. **What did you hear?** *What point in this message was most impactful for you?*
2. **What do you think?** *How did this message challenge, change, or affirm your thinking?*
3. **What will you do?** *How will you or your group put into practice what you’ve learned today?*

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