



Small Group/ Reflection Notes

	w/c 4 th December 2022	Unwrapping Christmas
 Start	<input type="checkbox"/> Play <i>Pass the Parcel</i> . Within each layer, include a treat and a question. : <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What's your favourite Christmas film? • Who are you remembering this Christmas? • What's your most random Christmas present? • A Christmas tradition of mine is... • What has been your most special Christmas memory? • What's do you like least about Christmas? • Dress down in PJs or dress up in a DJ? • Real or artificial? [Christmas trees] 	
 Discuss	<input type="checkbox"/> Why is Christmas so <i>big</i> for people of all faiths and none? <input type="checkbox"/> Why does Christmas need unwrapping? <input type="checkbox"/> What's at the heart of Christmas? How do we retain that? <input type="checkbox"/> How will you celebrate Christmas this year?	
 Read	Isaiah 9:1-7	 Catch-up ChesterRoadBaptist.org.uk/Watch
 Explore	<input type="checkbox"/> v.1 Isaiah faced distress: political crisis, war, hardship, spiritual drift.....How does this compare for us/ others today? How are these distressing times too? <input type="checkbox"/> v.2 Why are we drawn to light? Isaiah found people struggling in the shadows e.g. superstition, pseudo-religion <input type="checkbox"/> v.6 Faced with military and political oppression, God's solution was to send a... <i>baby</i> . What does this say about God and His Ways? How was this baby for <u>us</u> (you & I), not just for them/ others? <input type="checkbox"/> What names/ characteristics does Isaiah give to Jesus? What is their significance? Which means most to you today? <input type="checkbox"/> v.7 Why is Jesus always linked with <i>justice</i> and <i>righteousness</i> . Why is it both/and, not either/or?	
 Go further	<input type="checkbox"/> John 8:12 Why is Jesus the LIGHT of the world?	
 Reflect	<input type="checkbox"/> Which one verse stands out to you? Why do you think it grabs your attention? <input type="checkbox"/> Which verse(s) will you need to think more about? Why? <input type="checkbox"/> Sit in darkness. How does it feel? Light a candle. What happens? <input type="checkbox"/> Isaiah speaks in the past tense, as if this event has already happened. But it hasn't yet. But it will. It's as good as done. Light leaves the sun. It takes 8 minutes 20 seconds to reach earth. Once it leaves the sun it's on its way. It's left but not yet arrived – but it will. When God speaks/ promises, it's as good as left, it's on its way. Even though it hasn't yet arrived.	

 Do	<input type="checkbox"/> Invite someone(s) to a Christmas service at Chester Road e.g. Carol Service.
 Pray	<i>Dear God, Thank you for Jesus. Amen</i>
 My questions:	

If you're not yet in a small group, why not join one! Check out: ChesterRoadBaptist.org.uk/SmallGroups
Can't see a group to suit your availability/interest? Start one! SmallGroups@ChesterRoadBaptist.org.uk