

## Royal Redeemer CGS Community Discussion Guide

Based on the sermon for December 17, 2017  
*Who Needs Christmas: We Do*

**(For use as an opening Devotion, use only the highlighted portion)**



- **Begin by sharing a high and/or a low from your week**
- **Connect**
  - What is one of your favorite Christmas memories? Why is it special to you?
- **Grow** (read this passage aloud and listen for words or phrases that speak into your life now)

This is how the birth of Jesus the Messiah came about: His mother Mary was pledged to be married to Joseph, but before they came together, she was found to be pregnant through the Holy Spirit. Because Joseph her husband was faithful to the law, and yet did not want to expose her to public disgrace, he had in mind to divorce her quietly.

But after he had considered this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, “Joseph son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary home as your wife, because what is conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. She will give birth to a son, and you are to give him the name Jesus, because he will save his people from their sins.”

All this took place to fulfill what the Lord had said through the prophet: “The virgin will conceive and give birth to a son, and they will call him Immanuel” (which means “God with us”).

**Matthew 1:18-23**

- Share any words or phrases that speak into your life today.
- Read John 10:10. What do you think Jesus means when he says, "life to the full"? Is it difficult for you to believe that Jesus wants you to have life to the full?
- What is the story of Christmas primarily about? What has shaped your view of the Christmas story?
- Putting yourself in the shoes of Mary and Joseph, when is a time when you trusted God in a way that felt almost like blind faith?

Reflect: *If you could be set free from one thing, what would it be?*

- **Serve**
  - How can you help bring the story of Christmas home for another person this season?
- **End with Prayer and the Lord's Prayer**