

Small Group Questions  
December 16, 2018  
Series: This Is Us  
Message: "Plans Interrupted"



This series will take us through the holidays of Thanksgiving and Christmas. It will also track with our effort we have come to know as "Project Share." During this time of the year, we intentionally seek to serve and bless our community, and part of the world, with acts of compassion. We define compassion as: showing God's love in practical ways. The first three weeks of the series will track with a man in the book of Acts named Joseph, but nicknamed Barnabas (Son of Encouragement) because of the way he lived out his faith. His story enables us to understand the heart and motivation behind our efforts to show compassion.

The second part of the series will look at Christmas passages that show the heart of God toward us. Our compassion efforts are a response to what we have received from God already. Each week of the series there will be a specific way we can get involved in showing God's love to someone in our community or a child in need in a distant land.

You may want to think of ways your group can get involved together in one or more of the efforts. Serving together is a great way to build community with each other. Thank you for what you do to invest in the lives of others!

(Questions to get everyone to participate)

1. Where are you in the birth order in your family? What birth order traits do you see in the family your grew up in?
2. What are a couple of positive qualities you recall about your father when you were growing up?

(Questions based on the primary text)

Read Matthew 1:18-25.

3. How would feel in Joseph's place in :19? In :20-21? What would you say to family and friends? What would you say to God?
4. What is the ultimate purpose of Jesus' coming into the world according to Matthew in this passage?
5. Agree or disagree: "God is sovereign (in control) and people have a choice (free will)." Why or why not?
6. Apart from fulfilling prophecy, why was Jesus' virgin birth necessary?
7. How can people be involved in the purpose for which Jesus came into the world?
8. How have you experienced Jesus "Immanuel" in your life lately? What do you learn about that from Joseph?