Sermon Discussion Guide

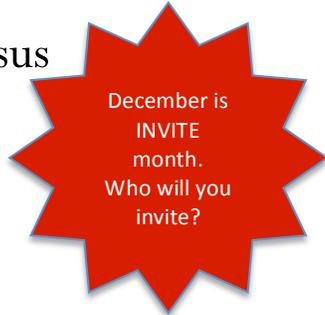**SevenRivers**
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

COMFORT & JOY

Comfort & Joy: The Certainty of Jesus
Luke 1:1-4
Chad Townsley, December 1 & 2, 2018

December is INVITE month. Who will you invite?

Step 1: Reflect on the Text

> Why do we do this first? We always want to start with the Bible. The goal is to meditate on the Word and read it with an ear sensitive to the Holy Spirit's promptings. Look for words or phrases that stand out through logic, repetition, layout, etc.

📖 Read the sermon scripture(s) listed above. What stands out to you? What do you find interesting and/or important? What is challenging or causes you to have questions?

Step 2: Reflect on the Sermon

INTRODUCTION

1. Of what things in life do you feel the most certain? Of what things do you feel the least certain?

2. What was your one, big takeaway from the sermon? How would you summarize the main theme of the sermon in one phrase or sentence?

CERTAINTY: <u>ABUNDANT WITNESS</u>

3. What is the difference between the fictional Christmas and the factual Christmas? Do you think the two can coexist?

4. Why does it matter that Jesus was a real, historical man?

5   How does the historical context into which Jesus came compare to our own? What has changed, what has remained the same? Is Jesus as relevant today as he was back then?

CERTAINTY: <u>LIVING STORY</u>

6   Chad said his understanding of Christmas was forever changed because of the death of a close friend. Have you ever had an experience during Christmas time that reminded you of your need for the Word become flesh?

7   In what areas of pain or brokenness do you regularly find the story of Jesus intersecting with your own story?

CERTAINTY: <u>REAL HOPE</u>

8   The Advent sermon series is titles, "Comfort and Joy". In your own words, how does Jesus bring comfort and joy at Christmas?

Step 3: Final Reflections

✝   How has your understanding, appreciation, and love for Jesus and the gospel grown as a result of this study?

♥   In what areas of faith and practice are you feeling convicted by the Holy Spirit to act as a result of this study?