



With Week 1: Not Under God

"We were never meant, never designed to walk alone."

Icebreaker: Share a memorable Christmas preparation tradition from your family or childhood. How does it help you prepare for the arrival of Christmas?

Group Discussion Questions

Reflect on the Theme of Preparation: Reid spoke about the importance of preparing for the arrival of Jesus, comparing it to preparing for the arrival of a child. How can we practically prepare our hearts for the arrival of Jesus this Advent season?

Exploring Life Under God: The sermon critiqued the "life under God" system. How can we shift from living under God to living with God, and what changes might this require in our approach to faith?

Scripture Reflection: Reflect on Matthew 23:1-4, where Jesus critiques the religious leaders. How does this passage challenge our understanding of religious practices and their purpose?

Personal Application: What specific steps can you take this week to move from a "life under God" mindset to a "life with God" mindset? How can you encourage others in this journey?

Community Impact: How can Crossroads Church collectively embody the message of "God with us" in our community, especially during the Christmas season?



With Week 1: Not Under God

"We were never meant, never designed to walk alone."

Scripture Exploration

- Read Genesis 3:8. What does this passage reveal about God's original desire for humanity?
- Examine Isaiah 7:14. Discuss the significance of the prophecy about Immanuel.
- In Matthew 23, how does Jesus critique the religious leaders? What are the implications of their actions?

Personal Reflection

- Reflect on Revelation 21:3. How does this vision of God's dwelling with humanity affect your view of the future?
- Consider the theme of 'God with us' throughout the Bible. How does it connect the Old and New Testaments?
- What are the theological implications of living 'with God' versus 'under God'? How does this change your understanding of obedience?

Personal Application

- Identify an area where you have been living 'under God' rather than 'with God.' How can you change this perspective?
- What steps can you take to experience 'God with you' daily? Consider practices like prayer or community involvement.
- How can you share the message of 'God with us' with others? What actions can you take to demonstrate this truth?
- Plan a project or activity that reflects 'Radical Generosity,' mirroring God's generous nature towards us.