



OPENING QUESTIONS - Use these questions to connect with others in your group:

1. What is your favorite and least favorite thing about Christmas time?
2. What is a pet peeve you have that can ruin your day?

KEY POINTS - take a minute to review the key points from this weekend's message

1. Jesus gives peace in the midst of chaos.
2. "Life can only be understood backwards; but it must be lived forwards" (Soren Kierkegaard)
3. Mary raised Jesus, and there were many things she could not control in his life and she had to accept it.
4. All of us will have a sword pierce our heart at some point, but Jesus offers a healed and whole heart.

SCRIPTURES USED IN THIS MESSAGE: John 16:33, Luke 1; 2:35-48, Leviticus 12:8, Mark 3:21, Acts 1:14; 18:8

RESPOND

Was there anything that stuck out to you about the message? Was there something that was hard, confusing, or something you really resonated with?

Have you heard of the serenity prayer before? When you hear it, what are the feelings that emerge for you?

Read John 16:33. Do you find this to be true? Where in your life have you felt Jesus overcoming?

Have you been baptized? If so, share what made you make that decision. If not, share about something holding you back.

APPLY

Have each member share an area of life that they desperately want to control but need to let go of.

After each person shares, say the serenity prayer as a group.

PRAY