

The Story
Week 6: God's Plan Revealed
June 20th, 2021

OPENING PRAYER

Have someone in the group invite God's Holy Spirit into our presence. Pray for your encounter with God's Word. Ask God to open your heart and mind to some new understanding and especially to a new way of applying this truth in our daily lives.

SMALL GROUP GUIDELINES

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|------------------|----------------|-----------------------------|
| ~Safe Group | ~Silence | ~Sharing |
| ~Confidentiality | ~No Cross Talk | ~Self-Aware |
| ~Listen | ~No Fixing | ~"I" Statements |
| ~Pause | ~No Rescuing | ~Handle Conflict Biblically |

"GETTING TO KNOW YOU"

Go around the room and briefly share your answer to the following question:

If you are willing to share, what comes to mind when you think of the word or name Father?

INTRODUCTION

Happy Father's Day! No matter what our experience is or has been with men in our lives that have filled the role of father, God is the perfect dad. He is our heavenly father. As we continue in our series, **The Story**, we are looking at the upper story of scripture and history. This week we step into the truth that God saves in a study titled **God's Plan Revealed**. Our passage takes us to *Matthew 1:18-23*.

THIS WEEK'S KEY SCRIPTURE: Matthew 1:18-23

Read the passage: Have someone in your group read the passage of scripture as everyone else follows along in their Bible.

DISCUSSION:

Go around the room and share from your heart, remembering the group guidelines.

EXPLORING THE SCRIPTURE:

- What do you notice in this text with new or fresh eyes?
- What do you struggle with?
- What surprises you?
- What encourages you?

ENGAGING THE MESSAGE:

- Our scripture focus for this week comes from the opening of the New Testament and a passage we normally reflect on at Christmas. In light of what we've been learning in the "Upper Story," how does it speak to you today?
- Are there other examples of how promises God has made in the past affect and impact your life today?
- How do you respond to the evidence of God's plan for salvation and the lengths He is willing to go to in order to fulfill it?
- Do you believe and accept that all of God's action has been done for you? If not, what do you struggle with?

LIVING IT OUT-APPLICATION:

- **Jesus is God's plan for salvation, with that in mind...where have you seen Jesus this past week in your world (where you work live and play)**

CLOSING PRAYER: Spend some time in prayer, pray for the season we are in, for those that may be affected, for the community, for our world. Pray for one another, for those that might be absent and for prayer requests.