Christmas: Joy Unspeakable - Week 1

1 Peter 1:3-9

BELONG

Ask this Ice Breaker Question: What is your favorite Christmas Tradition?

BELIEVE

Have someone in your group read aloud the key passage listed above

- 1. For the month of December, we are focusing on "Joy Unspeakable". How would you define Joy?
- 2. What are three observations you can make about biblical Joy in 1 Peter 1:3-9?
- 3. Read Galatians

Leader Context (Not to be read aloud):

A good working definition of Joy is: "Joy is the settled assurance that God is in control of all the details of my life, the quiet confidence that ultimately everything is going to be alright." (Kay Warren) It is common for us to try find joy in people or circumstances. Though these can be good things, our ultimate source of Joy is our relationship with God.

- 4. The Christmas story is marked by joy. Read Luke 2:10. Why was the news a reason for "mega" Joy?
- 5. Why do you think the angels started with the phrase "do not fear"? What progress do you see in the shepherds as you move through the story? (See Luke 2:20
 - ".... God is in the manger, wealth in poverty, light in darkness, succor in abandonment. No evil can befall us; whatever men may do to us, they cannot but serve the God who is secretly revealed as love and rules the world and our lives." Dietrich Bonhoeffer

BECOME:

- 1. What is one way you can move from fear to joy this week?
- 2. How can we pray for you this week?
- 3. Is there someone you know who needs to experience Joy Unspeakable? How can you extend an invitation to them to join you at First Orlando this month?

Close by praying together.