

# Christmas: Joy Unspeakable - Week 2

1 Peter 1:3-9

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## **BELONG**

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

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## **BELIEVE**

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

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- 1. How would you describe "living hope" to someone? Why does our hope as believers look drastically different than the hope of the world?**
- 2. How does Christmas make "living hope" possible? For reference read Luke 2:11.**

*Leader Context (Not to be read aloud):*

*After the "grand doxology" opening, Peter segues into the believer's secure salvation. This place is secure no matter what the believer may be going through because the "end goal" is secured. Christ did it - His birth ushered it in, his death and resurrection guaranteed it.*

- 3. How does Peter describe our inheritance in Christ? What do these words mean? When grouped together, what does it stir up inside of you? To clarify these terms, have a couple of people in your group read 1 Peter 1:4 from different translations (for example NIV, NLT, ESV).**

- imperishable
- undefiled
- unfading
- kept

- 4. In 1 Peter 1:5, Peter says that God's power is guarding something. Who or what is He guarding? How does God ultimately guard believers?**

*Leader Context:*

*The word "shielded" (phrouroumenous) can be translated "guarded" or "protected." It is used of putting garrisons in a city to protect it from foes<sup>1</sup> See also Philippians 4:7.*

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## **BECOME:**

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**The people of God waited for the Messiah to come. The announcement and birth of Christ ended 400 years of silence from God to the prophets and fulfilled the promise of a Savior. As we wait for the second coming Jesus, we can wait with living hope because of all He has done for us.**

1. Are you waiting for something today? How can you wait with joy unspeakable?
2. This week, write the following words on a notecard and put them where you will see them to help you keep your focus on the inheritance you have in Jesus:
  - imperishable
  - undefiled
  - unfading
  - kept
3. Who is someone you can pray for and invite to the Christmas presentation next week?

**Close by praying together.**

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<sup>1</sup> Thomas R. Schreiner, [1, 2 Peter, Jude](#), vol. 37, The New American Commentary (Nashville: Broadman & Holman Publishers, 2003), 64.

