

Sermon-based Discussion Questions

“The Gift of Presence” from 12/13/2020

John 1:14-18

SPOILER ALERT: *You may not want to read these until
AFTER you have heard the sermon.*

1. What are some of the smells or aromas that you associate with Christmas? What kinds of thoughts and emotions do these particular smells bring to mind?
2. Read John 1:14. How do you feel about this idea of Jesus becoming flesh and making “his dwelling among us”? Why do you think God made Jesus’ incarnation a key chapter in His redemption story?
3. Read Exodus 40:34-38. How do you think God’s glory in Exodus 40 compares/contrasts with the glory we read about in John 1:14? If you have a study Bible, see if the footnotes on John 1:14 say anything about Jesus “pitching His tent” among us. If so, share and discuss.
4. Read John 1:16-18. How do you think Jesus’ incarnational ministry might be a model for our ministry to people around us? How literally do you think we should take this idea of “presence”?
5. Read 2 Corinthians 2:14-15. How do you think God uses fully devoted followers of Jesus “to spread the aroma of the knowledge of him everywhere”? How might this “aroma of Christ” differ depending on whether someone is being saved or is perishing?
6. Pray that God’s presence will show through our lives this week. How can we pray for each other this week?