

Nov 30th - Dec 1st, 2024

Break the Ice

All over the world, there are crazy traditions around Christmas. Eating KFC is big in Japan on Christmas Day. In Venezuela, it is common to attend a Christmas service wearing roller skates, and of course some of our families hide a pickle in the tree.

What is one Christmas Tradition that you anticipate every year, and why is it meaningful to you?

<u>Up</u>

Read and reflect on 1 Peter 1:3-9 together.

What stands out, is confusing, or provoking your train of thought from this passage?

What connections can you make between this passage and the Christmas story?

How does the passage's context of immense persecution impact its message?

<u>In</u>

How does celebrating Christmas change when you are not aware or in tune with the hope of Jesus?

Anticipation points to a level of discontentment with how things are right now. Where in your life do you have a holy discontentment and a hope for Christ to make things right?

<u>Out</u>

Hope is not a wish. When we have an awareness of our hope in Christ, we often will take steps to love others and share this hope with them in large and small ways. However, our hope is often eclipsed or detractions set in. During this season of celebrating our hope in the person of Jesus, what can you do to encourage a greater awareness of your hope?

What is something that you can do with your family to share your hope with others this season?

<u>Prayer</u>

Conclude your time by leading the group to pray:

- Spend time being quiet without praying. Ask your group to mediate on who God is and what He has done for them. Ask them to listen to God as He speaks to them.
- Ask God for help in living from a posture of hope.