



QUESTIONS FOR DISCUSSION

What is your family's traditional Christmas meal?

What's the worst Christmas present you ever received?

Have someone from the group research the history and meaning of Noel and share their findings with the group.

As a group, consider each of the three statements from the message individually, and the supporting scriptures – and ask:

- How does the statement or corresponding scriptures challenge you?
- How does it encourage you?
- Can you think of other scriptures related to that topic?
- Can you think of other scripture that appears to reinforce another perspective?

Which of the statements do you feel God wants to work on you the most? Why?

Have someone from the group Google “The Silent Years” and report their findings to the group. (Less than 5 minutes) If you were living as a displaced Israelite during that period, how would your understanding of faith be challenged?

What is one thing you could do this Christmas that would help someone you know who is waiting on God to act, perhaps feels that He is absent, or is could use a reminder of his promises?



Leader's Guide

A Caroling We Will Go 2: The First Noel

OVERVIEW

There are timely, relevant and biblically orthodox messages found in many of the common Christmas Carols we sing. *A Caroling We Will Go* picks five of the most familiar carols and matches them with the scripture texts that reinforce the main message of the carol. Come along with us during this joyous season and celebrate the birth of Christ!

We will be taking our traditional Christmas offering during the following dates: Dec -. This year our we plan to give 70% of any funds over budget to a personal, local, national and global need. We will use the remaining 30% to fund the remodel of our youth/multi-purpose room. Please prayerfully consider your participation in sharing the love of Christ with the projects we are funding.

OUTLINE

The First Noel

Jer 23:5 + 300 other prophecies of Christ's coming
Ps 83:1

- 1. The First Noel reminds us that there are times when God seems silent, but it doesn't mean He is absent.**
Ps 22:2; 28:1; Is 7:14; Mt 1:23; 28:20; Mark 14:61
- 2. The First Noel reminds us that just because something is delayed, it doesn't mean it's denied.**
Ps 13:1-2; 82:2; Luke 1:17-20; 2:9-11; John 7:30; Ga 4:4; 2 Pet 3:9
- 3. The First Noel reminds us that God keeps his promises.**
Luke 2:28-32
Promise Reminders: Ps 119:105; Pro 3:5-6; Is 40:31; Jer 29:11; Matt 11:28; 28:20; Ro 8:28; 1Cor 10:9,13; Phil 1:6; 4:19; Heb 13:5;