



LifeGroup Discussion Packet

Unwrapping Love – One Holy Night

Matthew 1:18–25

December 20 & 21, 2025

LifeGroup Discussion Guide (Short Study)

KEY IDEA:

Love is not just something God feels, it's something He does.

In the Christmas story, Joseph shows us that God's love meets us in disappointment, calls us to obedience, moves us to action, and transforms who we become.

WARM-UP QUESTION: (Choose one)

- Have you ever had a single conversation or moment that completely changed your plans?
- When you hear the word love, do you tend to think more about feelings or choices? Why?

DISCOVERING THE TEXT:

READ: Matthew 1:18–25 together.

- What details stand out to you about Joseph's situation that you may not have noticed before?
- How does the Bible describe Joseph's character in verse 19, and why do you think that matters?
- What instructions does God give Joseph in verses 20–21, and what is not explained to him?

Group note: Stay rooted in what the text actually says before moving to interpretation or application.

DIGGING DEEPER:

The message emphasized this line:

"Love is not a feeling. Love is a decision, even when clarity is missing."

- How does Joseph's response to Mary's pregnancy illustrate that truth?
- Why do you think God often asks for obedience before giving full understanding?
- How does that challenge the way we usually want God to work?
- Joseph's obedience was quiet and costly. What do you learn about God's character from the way He chose to bring Jesus into the world?

APPLYING IT TODAY:

- Which of the four movements of God's love stood out to you most?
 - God's love meets us in disappointment
 - God's love calls us to obedience over understanding
 - God's love moves us to action
 - God's love transforms who we become
- Is there an area of your life right now where...
 - You're dealing with disappointment?
 - You sense God calling you to obey even without clarity?
 - You know love needs to move from intention to action?
- The message said, "God does His deepest work in our lives not when everything makes sense, but when we choose love anyway."
- What might "choosing love anyway" look like for you this week?

THIS WEEK'S CHALLENGE: (NEXT STEP)

- Choose one intentional act of obedience this week.
 - It might be forgiving someone.
 - Taking a step you've been delaying.
 - Serving someone quietly.
 - Trusting God with a decision you don't fully understand yet.
- Before you leave, invite the group to answer this question quietly or out loud,
 - What is one specific way God may be asking me to choose love anyway this week?

Close by praying for courage, trust, and obedience, asking God to help each person unwrap the gift of His love, not just at Christmas, but in everyday life.