

# WEEK 1

## DISCUSSION GUIDE



Our favorite Christmas memories might involve snowball fights, presents, or time with people we love. The end of the year is a great chance for us to reflect on everything that's happened and everyone around us. When we really think about it, there's so much we can be thankful for each and every year — even if things didn't work exactly how we planned. God has given us so much, and the birth of Jesus is a great way to focus on all of the gifts we've received this year. Retelling these classic Christmas stories will teach us about gratitude and thankfulness during this four-week series. As students hear about the prophecies and stories of Jesus' birth, they'll be reminded to be thankful for each other, what God has done, and God's promises, and to be thankful even when it's not easy.

### THIS WEEK

#### **BIG IDEA**

Be thankful for each other.

#### **BIBLE**

Psalm 100; Ephesians 1:15–23;  
John 13:34

- **What is the worst gift you have ever received?**
- **How frequently in a day do you feel grateful for something that happened or someone in your life?**
- **Are you grateful to go and be with friends and family for the holidays? Why or why not?**
- **What surprised you in Psalm 100? Why?**
- **What do you think about the idea that things don't have to be perfect for us to feel grateful for them?**
- **What stands out to you about Paul's letter? What motivated him to write something like that while in prison?**
- **What would it look like for you to choose to see people as gifts this Christmas?**
- **What would it look like for you to choose to be thankful even when it is hard?**
- **Read John 13:34. What is one way you can love someone like Jesus loved you this week? How can you show them that you are grateful for them even if they are not perfect or let you down?**
- **Who is one person you will be grateful for this week? What is one way you will show them you are thankful God put them in your life?**