



Dusk Til Dawn: Week 1 — “The Promise”

CONNECT: Rank your top 3 favorite Christmas movies.

GROW:

1. What’s your favorite part of this time of year? What’s the hardest part?
2. Where are you enduring “night” or darkness in your life? How are you doing with clinging to the hope of God’s promises (the hope of dawn)?
3. **Read John 1:5-7 MSG.** Scott said we walk in the light by trusting and obeying.
 - a. What stands out to you the most about Mary and Joseph’s choice to trust God and obey despite the unknown and the judgement they knew they would have to face from others?
 - If you need a refresher, read Mary’s response in **Luke 1:28-38** and Joseph’s response in **Matthew 1:18-24**.
 - b. What does “trusting and obeying” look like in your life right now? Do you feel like you’re stumbling around in the dark? Where do you need help walking in the light?
4. **Read John 16:33 NIV.** From dusk ‘til dawn, we are commanded to “take heart,” which literally translates to something like “*be cheerfully courageous*.” If you fully believed everything about the Christmas story, what would you cheerfully and courageously face? What’s stopping you?
 - Use questions to help you process further: *What monsters would you stare down? What battles would you fight? What ground would you take? What risks would you take? Who would you forgive? Who would you help? What would you stop doing? What would you start doing? How much would you give? How often would you pray? Where would you serve? How would you love? Who would you invite to Christmas services?*

PRAY: Pray for everyone in your group to tangibly feel the presence of God in their own personal “night.” Pray for God to help them take heart, be cheerfully courageous, and truly believe every word of God’s promises to us.

NEXT: Do something cheerfully courageous this week.