



## ***Dusk Til Dawn: Week 3 — “The Dawn”***

**CONNECT:** What was the best thing you ate over Christmas?

### **GROW:**

1. Of the Christmas songs about Jesus, which one is your favorite? What speaks to you the most about it?
2. No matter how many times we read or hear about the Christmas story, God can reveal something new. What has He revealed to you or helped you see in a new way as you've reflected upon the birth of Jesus this Christmas season? (Read **Luke 1:26-38, 2:1-21** and **Matthew 1:18-2:12** if you need a refresher!)
3. From a pregnant teen and a disgraced young man, to shepherds considered “sinners,” to wise men from a foreign land, and the stable where Jesus was born, the Christmas story is full of misfits and outsiders and symbols of low status. Which of these aspects stands out to you the most, or which do you resonate with the most?
4. Whether we like to admit it or not, we can all resonate with feeling flawed. We all have a sneaking suspicion that we aren't as we should be.
  - a. Is that something you've learned to accept and readily admit? Have there been times in your life where you've been in denial or leaned more into the idea that you're perfect just the way we are?
  - b. When you come face-to-face with your flaws, how do you respond—immediate remorse, defensiveness, blame-shifting, self-loathing, trying to fix yourself, etc.?
5. Read **Matthew 4:16** and **Romans 3:23**. It's easy to lose sight of the fact that *we* are the people that were living in darkness. We are all broken, and we should be amazed that Jesus would come *here* and hang out with *people like us*. What kinds of people or places are easy for you to think of as “on the wrong side of the tracks” more so than you?
6. Scott used the word “longing” to describe the season leading up to Christmas. We're all longing for rest, joy, peace, comfort, hope, etc. Ultimately, we're longing for Jesus. What do you need from Jesus right now?

**PRAY:** Ask Jesus for what you/your group members need from Him right now. Ask Him to give you His heart for those who don't know Him, and for a renewed passion for sharing His love and building His kingdom in the coming year.

**NEXT:** Reach out and check in with someone this week who may have had a tough Christmas.