



## Sermon-Based Study Guide | Menlo.Church

This guide is designed to guide a group discussion around the weekend sermon. You can also use this as an individual, but we highly recommend finding a friend and inviting them to discuss with you. Menlo Church has Life Groups meeting in-person and online using these guides. We'd love to help you find a group: [Click here for our group finder.](#)

### What you will find in this guide:

A discussion guide for groups and individuals. If you are using this as an individual be sure to engage with each question in a journal or simply in your mind as you prayerfully consider what you heard in the sermon and seek to discover what God is inviting you to know and do.

## Sermon-Based Discussion Guide for Groups and Individuals

December 18, 2022 – Cheryl Fletcher

**The Gift: The Disruption of Grace**

Every group is different; please choose the questions that relate best to your group, and don't feel like you must get to every question.

### Connect

- What's your favorite Christmas movie, show or book?
- What are you looking forward to this Christmas? What are you not looking forward to?

### Engage

Read Matthew 2:1-11

- What surprised you most about this event?
- Cheryl talked about the response of the Magi, Herod, and the Religious Experts (Curiosity, Fear, Apathy). Share a time when you had one of these responses to following Jesus.
- What is your initial response to Jesus as King?
- Name all the ways you see the grace of God in this event?

### Apply

- If you could name one response you are having to the Christmas Event in Matthew 2:1-11 (or would like to have) what would it be?
- Name one slowing practice that could help you respond to Jesus with humility, adoration, generosity or as your King. [Menlo.church/advent](http://Menlo.church/advent)

### Prayer

Spend time sharing prayer requests and praying for each person that shares. Then read the following prayer slowly over your group and ending with a time of silence.

*I am no longer my own, but thine.  
Put me to what thou wilt, rank me with whom thou wilt.  
Put me to doing, put me to suffering.  
Let me be employed for thee or laid aside for thee,  
exalted for thee or brought low for thee.  
Let me be full, let me be empty.  
Let me have all things, let me have nothing.  
I freely and heartily yield all things to thy pleasure and disposal.  
And now, O glorious and blessed God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit,  
  
    *thou art mine, and I am thine.**

*So be it.  
And the covenant which I have made on earth,  
let it be ratified in heaven.  
Amen.*

## **Going Deeper**

### **Menlo Meditations:**

Listen daily to a short meditation upon scripture. They are designed to help you slow down and remember that God is with you.

<https://menlo.church/menlo-meditations>

### **Advent Resources:**

Check out our advent resource page that has a link to the Menlo Meditations podcast and other practices to help you slow down and remember God is with you.

<https://menlo.church/advent-2022> or [menlo.church/advent](https://menlo.church/advent)

### **Menlo Midweek Podcast:**

Tune in every Wednesday for a conversation with the previous week's speaker. It's a deeper dive into the message and an engaging time to learn, reflect, grow—and have fun. Join us as we journey through the Unlikely Witness sermon series together!

<https://podcasts.apple.com/us/podcast/menlo-church-sermon-podcast/id129950807>