



# Pause

## Life Group Questions: Pause to Celebrate

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### Read

Luke 2:10, 7:34. Proverbs 17:22

### Reflect

How often do you celebrate? How often do you make time to party? Those might seem like unimportant things but the truth is that God wants us to celebrate. In the Old Testament he commanded his people to set aside times for festivals and celebration – he considered those times important. When Jesus came, he spent a lot of times at parties. And he had a great time! Why do you think God considers celebrations important? Do you believe they are important?

Pastor Josh Walters gave us three reasons to celebrate:

1. Because celebration brings about joy in our lives
  - a. In Luke 2:10, the angels announced the birth of Jesus to the shepherds. In case the shepherds were in doubt, the angels told them that this was a reason to celebrate! No matter what had happened in the shepherds' lives that week or month or year, this was a cause for joy.
  - b. Do you need some joy in your life? Have you considered throwing a party?
2. Because they unite us as people
  - a. During the Christmas season, we unite as Christians to celebrate the coming of Jesus. This is a time when we are united to one another in a common celebration. Can you think of another time when a celebration brought you together with other people?
  - b. Why do you think celebrations help unite us with others?
3. Because they point me back to God
  - a. Parties remind us that we serve a good God who loves us. They remind us that he has provided for all of our needs and that even in a world that is sometimes full of sadness and difficulty, we have reason to be joyful. We celebrate because we remember that our God is the source of all goodness and happiness.
  - b. How do different times and occasions of celebration point us back to God? How has this holiday season pointed you back towards God?

What was your biggest take-away from the weekend message?

### Respond

- What do you feel like God is asking you to do in response to the weekend message? What is your next step?
- How can your Small Group support you and hold you accountable in this?