



Six Session Springboard for Praise and Coffee Groups

Consider it a **springboard** because we don't want you to feel so attached to a curriculum that you miss the conversations that will happen organically.

Bunny trails encouraged!

You can download these on our website.
www.PraiseAndCoffee.com

Written by: Ronel Sidney~ Vice President Praise and Coffee



Theme: Advent

Session One: CHRISTmas

Get things brewing: Describe a time you counted down the days to Christmas.

Steep in God's word: Deuteronomy 7:7-10 The Message, "GOD wasn't attracted to you and didn't choose you because you were big and important—the fact is, there was almost nothing to you. He did it out of sheer love, keeping the promise he made to your ancestors. GOD stepped in and mightily bought you back out of that world of slavery, freed you from the iron grip of Pharaoh king of Egypt. Know this: GOD, your God, is God indeed, a God you can depend upon. He keeps his covenant of loyal love with those who love him and observe his commandments for a thousand generations. But he also pays back those who hate him, pays them the wages of death; he isn't slow to pay them off—those who hate him, he pays right on time."

Press it out:

- Describe a time it was difficult to keep your focus on Jesus during the holiday season?
- What traditions have you started or continued in your own homes to share the reason for the season with friends and family?
- What is your favorite part of Christmas time?

Session Two: Forgiving Like Jesus.

Get things brewing: How early is too early to start listening to Christmas music?

Steep in God's word: Ephesians 4:32 NIV, "Be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving each other, just as in Christ God forgave you."

Press it out:

- How do you remind yourself to be loving and kind to those hard to love people in your life?
- Do you find it easier or harder to forgive at Christmas?
- Describe a time when you struggled to forgive?

Session Three: Loving Like Jesus.

Get things brewing: Describe your favorite thing about Christmas?

Steep in God's word: Philippians 2:1-4 The Message, "If you've gotten anything at all out of following Christ, if his love has made any difference in your life, if being in a community of the Spirit means anything to you, if you have a heart, if you care— then do me a favor: Agree with each other, love each other, be deep-spirited friends. Don't push your way to the front; don't sweet-talk your way to the top. Put yourself aside, and help others get ahead. Don't be obsessed with getting your own advantage. Forget yourselves long enough to lend a helping hand."

Press it out:

- Describe a time you put yourself aside to help someone else get ahead.
- How do you balance forgetting yourself and taking care of yourself?
- How can we share the spirit and true meaning of Christmas with those who do not agree with our beliefs?

Session Four: Jesus Brings Joy.

Get things brewing: Share a favorite or funny Christmas memory.

Steep in God's word: 1 Thessalonians 5:16-18 The Message, "Be cheerful no matter what; pray all the time; thank God no matter what happens. This is the way God wants you who belong to Christ Jesus to live."

Press it out:

- What brings you the most joy in life?
- Describe a time you struggled to be joyous and how you pressed through your feelings to chose joy.
- What is the hardest part of Christmas for you or your family?



Session Five: Jesus is LOVE.

Get things brewing: What is your favorite Christmas movie?

Steep in God's word: Jeremiah 29:13 ESV, "You will seek me and find me, when you seek me with all your heart."

Press it out:

- Describe a time when you felt lost and had to seek God to find peace.
- How do you balance your holiday to do list with family and fun?
- Is it possible to incorporate St. Nicholas and Jesus in your Christmas traditions?

Session Six: The birth of Jesus Christ.

Get things brewing: What does Christmas mean to you?

Steep in God's word: Read about the birth of Jesus Christ in Luke 2:1-20.

Press it out:

- When you begin to lose sight on the true meaning of Christmas what helps you get re-focused on Jesus?
- What is your Christmas prayer or wish for this year?
- Describe a time you witnessed or were a part of a Christmas miracle.