



FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

12/03/2009

Dear Life Group Friends,

Can you believe it? We have now officially entered the month of December. One of the first signs of the holidays is the Live Wire Smorgasbord tomorrow night. What a great way to start the festivities! My mouth is watering because I've smelled their cooking in the church kitchen all day. I can't wait to take a bite!

Because our minds are turning to Christmas, so will our studies the next couple of weeks. On December 13 is our children's Christmas program. So I will give a short message on "Christmas Building Block" and what to emphasize as you tell your children and grandchildren the story of Jesus' birth. Did you know that according to the Old Testament Scriptures, one of the most important reasons for the holidays or holy days is to provide teaching opportunities whereby we can introduce our children to the goodness and greatness of our Savior? Of course, in teaching our children, we learn tremendous truths ourselves. I hope that will be the case as you study the lesson for next week. In it we'll take a fresh look at the story you know so well, found in Luke 2:1-11.

Included with the questions this week is an excellent message on the passage by John MacArthur, as well as a great coaching tip that you can use to challenge your small group to use the holidays as an opportunity to reach out to their friends and family with the love of Christ – sharing baked goods with your neighbors, inviting an un-churched friend to a Christmas concert, or something more creative than I can dream up. Please read the article yourself and make time in your life group to remind them of the special Christmas events that are just ahead.

Thank you as always for your loving and faithful leadership! We appreciate you greatly.

Merry Christmas,

Pastors Gary and Glen