

Week 1 - "Best Present Ever"

Pastor Graham Monteleone

Group Discussion Guide

WAS JESUS JUST LUCKY OR WAS HE LORD?

History itself seems to point towards something really big happening on earth right around the birth of Jesus.

READ REVELATION 17:17-18a

¹⁷When I saw him, I fell at his feet as though dead. Then he placed his right hand on me and said: "Do not be afraid. I am the First and the Last. ¹⁸I am the Living One; I was dead, and now look, I am alive for ever and ever!

RESPOND

1. Jesus came into world history at the perfect time. How do you respond to the many events and dates pointing to the importance of Jesus' life—including how his entrance into the world changed how we track time?
2. Timing played a major role in the success of Jesus' ministry. Share a time when you experienced God's excellent timing in your own life.
3. Aside from Judaism, the world religions during Jesus' time worshipped many gods. In our culture, what gods would you say we worship instead of, or in addition to, Jesus?
4. The birth, death, and resurrection of Jesus changed everything. Do you experience Jesus (his care, his leading, his voice) as the "Living One" in your own life? If so, in what ways? If not, would you like to?

REALITY

It is time to recognize the immense degree to which Jesus' life still affects the entire world.

DO THE STUFF: When You Doubt there's a Master Plan

Say these words: *Jesus changed the course of history.*

Think this thought: *If God can line up historical events to send Jesus at the perfect time, I can trust him with timing in my own life.*

Pray this verse: *"Do not be afraid. I am the First and the Last."* (Gal. 6:9).