

- A Virgin Birth? –

Ice-Breaker:

- **Share a time when you bought someone a really cool present and couldn't wait to give it to the person. What was the best part of that experience?**

Discussion:

1. **Read Matthew 1:22-23. Thomas Jefferson once said: *"The day will come when the mystical generation of Jesus by the Supreme Being as His father and the womb of a virgin will be classed with the fable of the generation of Minerva and the brain of Jupiter."***
   - **Why do you suppose people struggle with the concept of the virgin birth?**
   - **In your opinion, what is the most mind-boggling aspect about the virgin birth (the union of man and God)?**

2. **Read John 8:52-59; Exodus 3:13-14.**
   - **What was the significance of Jesus saying *"I AM"* in John 8:52-59?**
   - **Why did the Jews want to stone Him after this comment? [See Exodus 3:13-14 for further insight]**

3. **Read John 1:1-4; John 5:17-18; John 7:48-49. Jesus repeatedly claimed to be the Son of God, and did things (like forgiving sin) that only God can do.**
   - **How does the fact that Jesus claimed to be God in the flesh answer anyone who wants to say that Jesus was simply "a good man"?**

4. **Read Philippians 2:6-8.**
   - **What impresses you most about Jesus from this passage?**

5. **Read John 15:15.**
   - **What is so staggering about the fact that Jesus would call us "friends"?**
   - **How does this shape your view of God and His relationship with you?**

6. **Read I Timothy 2:5; I Peter 3:18; Romans 4:4-6. The reason we can now be friends with God is because Jesus bridged the giant chasm between God's Holiness and our sinfulness.**
   - **How does God "justify" (make right) wicked people like us?**
   - **According to Romans 4:5, what does God credit to our account as righteousness?**

Personal Application:

- **What better Christmas present could you give someone than an opportunity to trust in Jesus? Pray about who you might invite to join us for our Christmas Eve services this Saturday… and then invite them to come along with you.**