

# ADVENT CONSPIRACY

Spend Less - Ecclesiastes 5 | November 26, 2023  
SOUTHAVEN CAMPUS

## TALK IT OVER

### KEY SCRIPTURE

Ecclesiastes 5:10-17

1 John 2:15

Luke 1:46-55

Genesis 3:15

Genesis 12:1-3

Deuteronomy 18:15

2 Samuel 7:12-14

**START TALKING.** Find a conversation starter for your group.

- What are the best Christmas cookies: chocolate chip, sugar, gingerbread, or other?

**START THINKING.** Ask a question to get your group thinking.

- How has increased spending changed the way people celebrate Christmas?

**START SHARING.** Choose a question to create openness.

- **Carefully read Luke 1:46-55 (*The Magnificat*)**
- What do you find most unique or interesting about Mary's song of praise?
- How do you think Mary's knowledge shaped her preparation for Jesus, and how should our knowledge of him shape our celebration?
- What are the main differences between a cultural and a devotional celebration of Christmas, and how do we sometimes fall into the cultural Christmas trap?
- What are some ways celebrating Christmas differently might change our outlook and help us present Jesus to people around us (family/friends/etc)?
- **Read Ecclesiastes 5:10-12**
- Why does Solomon's advice come with added credibility, and how can it help us adjust the way we spend during Christmas?
- Why do you think people so easily believe that having more things will make us happy?
- **Read 1 John 2:15**
- How does overspending expose our love for the world, and why is that a big deal?

**START PRAYING.** Be bold and pray with power.

- Pray for Christians to re-embrace the true meaning of Christmas this Advent season.

**START DOING.** Commit to a step and live it out this week.

- Plan to Spend Less this Christmas!

Helping people find & follow Jesus.