

- 4 Read aloud Zechariah's Song in Luke 1:68-79, maybe reading one verse at a time around your group. Discuss which verses stood out to you, and why.

- 5 John the Baptist's message, in order to prepare people for the coming of Jesus, was one of repentance.
 - A What is it about UNrepentant people that keeps them from being ready to welcome Jesus?

 - B What is there in the heart of repentant people that creates fertile soil for the response to Christ?

- 6 Mike quoted J.I. Packer's definition of repentance. In what ways, if any, does it strike a chord in you? (This is the full quote - Mike only quoted the first part)

"Repentance means turning from as much as you know of your sin to give as much as you know of yourself to as much as you know of your God, and as our knowledge grows at these three points so our practice of repentance has to be enlarged."

- 7 What is there in your life, or in your picture of God, that you think you need to change your mind about? In other words, where might you need to practice repentance?

- 8 Mike's Big Idea was this: "Our souls are home for the holidays when we examine our hearts, and are on our knees before the newborn King." What do you plan to do this week in order to prepare your soul to be Home for the Holidays?