

ADVENT



Salt of the Earth: Palestinian Christians in the Northern West Bank

Study Guide

<http://www.saltfilms.net>

Summary: This session looks at how we as Christians prepare for discipleship. We will meet Mughannam, a young man who teaches Christian religion in the Roman Catholic school in Zababdeh, a majority Christian town in the West Bank. We'll talk about how we as Christians prepare for discipleship.

5 min **Prayer and introduction** Sample Prayer
Merciful Lord, open our hearts and minds to your word. Prepare us for the work you have set before us. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

1 min **Scripture**
Luke 3:1-6

10 min **Questions**
*What does it mean to "prepare the way of the Lord"?
How do we do it as individuals? As a church?*

20 min **Film**
"Advent" segment.

20 min **Questions**
In describing the goals of the youth program, Mughannam articulates his guidelines for discipleship:
 Observe the world around you;
 Discern, using Jesus as your wisdom;
 Act, based on Christian thought.
Apply these to a situation or issue from the film or your community.
What have you observed in the situation? Is more observation needed? Of what and why? What scripture, principals, or doctrines might help you discern in this situation? How else can we use Jesus as our wisdom to discern? What kinds of action might the process lead toward? Are the guidelines appropriate/complete/relevant to this or other situations?

4 min **Closing and prayer** Sample Prayer
Blessed Lord and Savior, we pray for Mughannam and all who seek to be your disciples. Give each of us eyes to see your world, ears to hear your word, and hands to do your work. In your holy name we pray. Amen.

<h2>Daily Walk</h2> <p>An invitation to daily prayer and witness</p>	
<p>Daily Prayer: <i>Frame your daily walk with this series in prayer—feel free to use your own prayer or the one provided:</i> God of wisdom, I pray for students. Keep them safe as they learn and grow. May they seek your truth and knowledge. May they have the courage and endurance to become instruments of your love and grace in the world. In Christ's name I pray. Amen.</p>	<p>Daily Action: Available online: http://www.saltfilms.net/guides/advent-student.pdf</p> <p>Day 1) <i>Read Scripture:</i> Proverbs 2.</p> <p>Day 2) <i>Hear from a Holy Land Christian:</i> Voices of students at Latin Patriarchate (Roman Catholic) schools. http://www.lpj.org/Nonviolence/Maria/Story14.htm</p> <p>Day 3) <i>Learn more:</i> An examination of Palestinian and Israeli school textbooks and the question of incitement. http://www.miftah.org/Doc/Factsheets/MIFTAH/English/Jan30by2k4.doc</p> <p>Day 4) <i>Be inspired:</i> Holy Land Trust's Peace and Reconciliation program. http://www.holylandtrust.org/pnr.html</p> <p>Day 5) <i>Share:</i> Take time to tell someone new about how you've been moved this week by this Study Series. Invite him/her to pray with you.</p> <p>Day 6) <i>Act:</i> Sponsor a student and help Holy Land Christian schools continue their ministries. http://www.hcef.org/hcef/index.cfm/ID/117.cfm</p>