



**WEEK TWO**

## **Wide Awake**

**Dec 6 & 7, 2014**

**Pastor Jeff Countryman**

*Renewal at Christmas time occurs when we reconnect with Jesus*

### STUDY QUESTIONS

**1. When God has His favor on someone, what does that person's life look like?**

Does God's idea of favor differ from ours?

**2. Take a look at Luke 2:8-14.** How did God show His favor to Mary?

How did that favor affect her life and her relationships? Did she understand the implications of that favor?

What was her reaction to it?

**3. Pastor Jeff said that God's interruptions are actually invitations.** What are they invitations to?

Have you ever had God totally interrupt your life? What was the result?

**4. What does the word "renewal" mean to you?**

How does something get renewed? What is the process like?

Compare that process with how spiritual renewal might begin. (see Rom 12:1-2, Psalm 51:10-12, and Ephesians 4:17-24)

**5. How might one of God's interruptions lead to rejuvenation in a person's life?**

**6. A.W. Tozer wrote: "It is the romance of Christmas that gives it its extraordinary appeal... So completely are we carried away by the excitement...that we are apt to forget that its romantic appeal is the least significant thing about it." What is this "romance" of Christmas?**

How does this appeal become a distraction or a distortion of what Christmas really is all about?

How does the "romance" affect our spiritual life and energy?

**Memorize Psalm 51:10:** "Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a steadfast spirit within me."

**Personal Meditation:** This week, consider the practical ways you can reshape your Christmas To-Do List so that you are able to more fully celebrate the gift that is Jesus our Savior. Keep in mind that the meaning of Christmas is enhanced not by what we do or buy or display, but by how we love.