**A Taste of Chicken Soup**

Handout 6-A

**Directions:**

together.

Flip through the copy or copies of *Chicken Soup for the Soul* in your small group, and answer the following questions

1. Read a few stories from the book that strike you. Write a sentence or two that describes each of these stories.

2. What are some adjectives that you would use to describe the stories collected in this book?

3. How would you explain the meaning behind the title, *Chicken Soup for the Soul*, to someone who does not understand it? What does chicken soup have to do with any of these writings?

**Gospel Favorites**

1. Describe a story from the life of Jesus that is one of your favorites, or that you find to be particularly memorable. Retell the story in a few sentences.

Handout 6-B

2. What about this story draws you to it?

3. Either by scanning your own printed Bible or by using online Bible search tools (such as www.biblegateway.com), find the Scripture citation(s) for your story. In how many of the Gospels does this story appear?

Matthew :

Mark Luke John

:

:

:

4. If your story appears in more than one Gospel, what differences do you notice in the way it is told? How do these differences affect the way you hear the story?

**Jesus Is Born. . .**

…in an insignificant, back-water country (Mt 2:6)

…to an oppressed people (Lk 2:1)

…far from home (Lk 2:4)

…in a barn (Lk 2:7)

…to an unwed mother (Mt 1:18; Lk 1:34–35)

…to an unmarried couple (Mt 1:18)

…into poverty (Lk 2:24)

…with a prophetic, but fairly common name (Lk 1:31)

…as a threat to power (Mt 2:16)

…with a death sentence hanging over him (Mt 2:13)

…on the run as a fugitive and refugee (Mt 2:13–15)

…as Messiah—Emmanuel—Son of God

What does all this tell you about Jesus?

**In Preparation**

**Directions:**

Section 3 describes three experiences from the life of Jesus that prepared him for various aspects of his public ministry. In

the first column, identify and describe these three events. In the second, describe how you think these experiences helped Jesus.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Event | This event or experience prepared Jesus for: |
|  |  |
|  |  |
|  |  |

Knowing what you do about his public ministry, how do you think the three experiences described prepared him for what was to come?

**Links to My Life**

Handout 6-E

**Directions:** Choose one theme from each Gospel to link to your life today. In the box of the corresponding Gospel, write each theme and the way(s) that this theme speaks to your life.

**Matthew**

**Mark**

**Luke**