



Christmas Reminders

Luke 1:26-56 p. 855

December 24, 2017

Pastor Mickey Klink

Introduction

In this holiday service we learn how Christmas reminds us of the goodness and grace of God.

The Text: Luke 1:26-56

Seven Reasons for Christmas

- 1) Christmas reminds us that God knows our situation and pursues us.

- 2) Christmas reminds us that God is present and active.

- 3) Christmas reminds us that no matter our age we are always children and given good gifts from the Father.

- 4) Christmas reminds us to see all gifts as analogies or symbols for the gift of Jesus Christ.

- 5) Christmas reminds us to receive.

- 6) Christmas reminds us to give.

- 7) Christmas reminds us how to make sense of the other 364 days of the year.

Response

- Christmas reminds us of the gospel.

Sunday Text Questions for “Christmas Reminders” (Luke 1:26-56)

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- 1) Starter Question: If you were honest, does Christmas make you think more about family traditions and memories or the incarnation of Jesus and the gospel?
- 2) Read the text aloud and discuss together any significant observations or issues needing clarification.
- 3) How does the angel’s conversation with Mary (vv. 26-38) connect the coming of Jesus with the biblical story and point to the gospel?
- 4) What does v. 35 explain about the nature of Jesus birth and the incarnation? Why is the virgin birth an important truth of Christianity?
- 5) What does Mary’s encounter with Elizabeth (vv. 39-45) reveal about the coming of Jesus and the work of God?
- 6) How do vv. 46-47 suggest that God’s work in us affects us as the deepest level of our being?
- 7) How does the incarnation of Jesus prove that God “looked on the humble estate” of the world (v. 48)?
- 8) What is the meaning of this statement in v. 50: “his [God’s] mercy is for those who fear him?”
- 9) Why does God help the hungry (i.e., poor) and reject the rich (v. 53)? What is this creatively-worded statement actually trying to communicate?
- 10) How should Christians use Christmas to remember Jesus and the gospel? What practices (traditions) can you implement in your family to establish gospel-pointing Christmas reminders?

Further study this week: Reflect and meditate on the Christmas story in Luke: Luke 1:1-25 (Mon); Luke 1:26-38 (Tues); Luke 1:39-56 (Wed); Luke 1:57-80 (Thurs); Luke 2:1-21 (Fri).