



"It's Christmastime!"
November 29, 2015

Introduction

Without a doubt, Christmastime is a very special time for all of us. The Apostle Paul, in his letter to the Ephesians, tells us why Christmas is such a significant time of the year:

"This was what God wanted, and he planned to do it through Christ. His goal was to carry out his plan, when the right time came, that all things in heaven and on earth would be joined together in Christ as the head. In Christ we were chosen to be God's people, because from the very beginning God had decided this in keeping with his plan." (Ephesians 1:9b-11a NCV)

The event we celebrate at Christmas is the most important time in the history of the world. Read Luke 2:1-20. From this announcement, we can make several observations about this very special time of the year: Christmas is timely, timeless and Jesus's time.

Discussion Questions

1. What images come to mind when you hear the phrase, "It's Christmastime!"?
2. Christmas is just as timely of a gift as any other we might receive. It is timeless and timely. Read Luke 2:10. Discuss how the gift of Christmas is one anyone no matter the age or nationality can use every day.
3. Jesus is the centerpiece of Christmas...or at least he's supposed to be. Read Luke 2:11. What would someone who did not know about Christmas say Christmas was about in our society/in your home?
4. Everyone knows Christmas is Jesus's birthday. We must ask ourselves an all-important question: WWJW-What Would Jesus Want? Compare what Jesus wants versus what we want at Christmas. How might this perspective change your approach to Christmas this year?
5. Discuss the Four Tenets of the Advent Conspiracy and how you will implement them this season. For example, Worship Fully, attend worship on Sunday mornings and evenings and Wednesday nights; Spend Less, set a budget this holiday season; Give More, give a tithe of your holiday spending to our special ; Love All, spend time building relationships.

Conclusion

It's Christmastime! What kind of time is it going to be for you & your family this year?