

SMALL GROUP STUDY QUESTIONS

1. What do you think most people are truly looking for at Christmas time? (Hint: it's not the perfect gift)
2. How is Christmas about finding forgiveness?
3. How do we find peace of mind through Jesus?
4. What areas of our life are most affected by guilt and why?
5. Why are those who are grieving at Christmas often discouraged instead of encouraged?
6. Make a resolution to make this Christmas all about Jesus Christ. Will you do that today?

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Sermon Study Guide
Pastor Jerry Coon – December 23, 2018

SERMON NOTES

WHAT WILL YOU FIND AT CHRISTMAS?

Matthew 7:7 – “Seek and you will find.”

Angels: “You’ll find the baby...lying in a manger.”

Shepherds: “Let’s go and see!” Luke 2:12,25

“Wise men came from the east asking, ‘Where is the baby...? We have come to worship him.’” Matthew 2:1-2

“Seek and YOU will find” Matthew 7:7

1. You Can Find Forgiveness

“Today your Savior was born...He is Christ, the Lord!”

“...All who believe in Jesus will be forgiven of their sins through his name.” Acts 10:43

2. You Can Find Peace of Mind

“Those who love your teachings will find true peace...” Ps. 119:165

(Jesus) “Learn from me...you will find rest for your lives. Matt 11:29

- a. The one who claims this must be living in obedience to his or her Father.

(John 3:22-23) ²² And whatever we ask we receive from Him, because we keep His commandments and do those things that are pleasing in His sight. ²³ And this is His commandment: that we should believe on the name of His Son Jesus Christ and love one another, as He gave us commandment.

- b. The one who claims this promise must have right motives.

(James 4:3) You ask and do not receive, because you ask amiss, that you may spend *it* on your pleasures.

SERMON NOTES CONTINUED

c. Finally, the believer must be obedient to the will of God.

(Matt 6:24) “No one can serve two masters; for either he will hate the one and love the other, or else he will be loyal to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and mammon.

3. There are 3 things that will rob you of peace of mind this Christmas:

a. Guilt –

(1 John 1:8-9) ⁸If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. ⁹If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us *our* sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Verse 8 – beware of deception – sin denied.

Verse 9 – sin cleansed: “and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.”

b. Grief –

(1 Peter 5:7) – casting all your care upon Him, for He cares for you.

c. Grudges –

(Luke 22:31-32) Jesus says, “I have prayed for you, that your faith fail not.”

In the garden, Jesus put into Peter’s hand and in the hands of every believer the spiritual weapon we need,

(Matt 26:41) – “Watch and pray, that you enter not into temptation.”

SERMON NOTES CONTINUED

4. You Can Find Eternal Life

Facts of life:

a. We’re all going to die someday

b. You’re going to spend more of your life on that side of death than you will on this side.

“God makes us ready for heaven.... when we put our faith in Christ to save us...The one who finds life will find it through trusting God.” Rom 1:17

“Christ, God’s Son, has come to help us understand and find the true God.” 1 John 5:20

“You will find me when you seek me with all your heart.” Jer 29:13