

December 17, 2017

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## **Christmas is Personal**

<sup>1</sup> The beginning of the good news of Jesus Christ, the Son of God. Mark 1:1 (NRSV)

John in his Gospel:

- doesn't tell us what happened
- but <u>why</u> it happened.

<sup>14</sup> And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth. John 1:14 (NRSV)

<sup>9</sup> The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world. John 1:9 (NRSV)

God sent everybody a gift.

This gift, Jesus, came to enlighten our lives.

<sup>12</sup> But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, John 1:12 (NRSV)

<sup>31</sup> But these are written so that you may come to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name. John 20:31 (NRSV)

## A Personal Savior

<sup>31</sup> But these are written so that you may come to believe... John 20:31 (NRSV)

Jesus came into this world to be the <u>Savior</u>.

"Do you <u>believe</u>?"

- If you don't believe keep seeking.
- If you aren't sure you believe keep <u>asking</u>?

God sent us exactly what we <u>needed</u> because our problem was <u>sin</u>.

The Birth of Jesus: Luke 1:26-33; Matthew 1:18-21, 24; Luke 2:1, 3-19

<sup>16</sup> "For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life. <sup>17</sup> "Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him. John 3:16-17 (NRSV)

## My Next Steps Today Are To...

- For the first time, admit that I need a Savior and so I choose today to believe in Jesus confessing my sin to him and receiving his grace and forgiveness.
- Come back to Jesus, surrendering anew my life into his hands.
- Commit to keep seeking and/or asking until I can truly say "I believe in Jesus."
- Meditate on and/or memorize John 3:16-17