

THE MEANING OF CHRISTMAS

1 John 4:9-10

If you've ever been around young children you know the "why" phase —everything is met with that one question as they try to make sense of the world. At Christmas, we're invited to ask our own "why": why would God come to earth as a helpless baby, born into poverty and danger, only to die on a cross? 1 John 4 gives us the answer in one word: love.

This is how God showed his love among us: He sent his one and only Son into the world that we might live through him. This is love: not that we loved God, but that he loved us and sent his Son as an atoning sacrifice for our sins. 1 John 4:9-10

Christmas is all about God's LOVE FOR HUMANITY.

God loves us so much he sends Jesus to RESCUE us and SET US FREE.

"Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; he is the Messiah, the Lord." Luke 2:10-11

"She will give birth to a son, and you are to give him the name Jesus, because he will save his people from their sins." Matthew 1:21

For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life. For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but to save the world through him. John 3:16-17

God loves us so much he wants us to get the MOST OUT OF LIFE.

But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid. I bring you good news that will cause great joy for all the people. ... Suddenly a great company of the heavenly host appeared with the angel, praising God and saying, "Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace to those on whom his favor rests." Luke 2:10, 13-14

"I came so they can have real and eternal life, more and better life than they ever dreamed of." John 10:10 The Message

FOUR TRUTHS TO CONSIDER ABOUT GOD'S LOVE FOR YOU:

1. God's love isn't CONDITIONAL.

But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us. Romans 5:8

2. God's love invites FRIENDSHIP not PERFORMANCE.

"I no longer call you servants...Instead, I have called you friends." John 15:15

3. God's love is PERSONAL not abstract.

And I pray that you....may have power....to grasp how wide and long and high and deep is the love of Christ, and to know this love that surpasses knowledge—that you may be filled to the measure of all the fullness of God. Ephesians 3:17-19

4. God's love is revealed IN JESUS.

The Son is the radiance of God's glory and the exact representation of his being... Hebrews 1:3

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What is God saying to me?

What am I going to do about it?

Love God, Love Others, Learn Jesus, DO SOMETHING!

Today's sermon can be found on our website beaverdambaptist.org