



What Are the Chances – I Will Get What I Want
Scripture: Matthew 2:1-2 and Luke 2:11 & 15

December 18, 2022

DAILY DEVOTION

Find a rhythm in God's word this week! Follow this 3-day plan on your own or with your group!

[Wanted](#)

INSPIRATION

“Through the prophet Isaiah, God revealed that a child would be born who would be called the Prince of Peace. In Hebrew, the word for “Prince” (sar) indicates a leader or captain, and the word for “peace” (shalom) means completeness. When Jesus came to earth, He came to lead a broken world to a place where we could be made whole again.” –

[Advent-The Journey to Christmas](#)

ICE BREAKER

1. What was one Christmas gift you really wanted as a child? Did you get it or not?
 2. What is one thing that you really wanted from God? Why?
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DEEP DIVE

Read this out loud

An excerpt from the message this week:

“What are the chances that you will get what you want this Christmas – I guess it depends on where you are looking. Many of us are living out the U2 Song – but I still haven’t found what I am looking for. We are looking – we are or we will be – wondering why we are on the planet. We are looking for meaning and purpose.”

Read Luke 2:1-15 and Matthew 2:1-13 and then answer the following questions:



3. Read Luke 2:1-15. In these verses, the shepherds are standing in the field with their sheep—just another night in the life of a shepherd. What news did the angels have and how did the shepherds react? What did the shepherds want to see and why?
4. Read Matthew 2: 1-13. From verse 2, what did the Magi want? The Magi and King Herod all wanted to see the baby Jesus, but their responses to his presence were very different. Describe the differences in their reactions to the news of Jesus. How are these two responses similar to how others react to the good news of Jesus?
5. What sorts of things are you looking to Jesus for and how are you doing it?

Read this out loud

An excerpt from the message this week:

“So, there is this gift...what am I supposed to do with it? What do you do with a gift? I don’t know what you do with a gift – it is clear what I do – when I get the go ahead – I open it. Not opening a gift is weird – right? Let’s say I give you a gift – I am all excited about giving it to you – it is perfect – it is wrapped so nicely – and you have said to me on several occasions that you want this gift – so I bought it and wrapped it – and now I will give it to you. I am waiting – well – are you going to open it? I don’t know. I think I will wait – what for? I don’t know. Just not in the mood. Well get in the mood. Open it. No. Please. No. I’m going to wait. That is a ridiculous conversation. But we do that with God all the time – we have heard about the gift – we even know what it is – it is a gift that we have been looking for all our lives.”

Read John 3:16 and Acts 2:37-39 and then answer the following questions:

6. What did the gift of God’s son bring to us? Why would we want Jesus?
7. Just as the shepherds and Magi took action to see Jesus, we too are called to action. From Act 2:37-39 what actions are we called to take? Why would we want to take these actions?
8. This Christmas we hear the good news of the gift of Jesus. Is Jesus all you ever wanted? Why or why not?

Additional Study

If you have time during your Small Group or you want to study more about the message topic, read and consider the following passages:

- Ephesians 2:8
- Ephesians 3:7
- James 1:17

NEXT STEPS



9. What are some possible next steps for you to make Jesus what you want?
 10. What can you do to encourage someone in your family, coworkers, or church to take their next step to responding to Jesus?
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PRAYER

1. After sharing why your group wants Jesus, pray for a person in your group. Pray for that person throughout the week.
 2. Whom in your group could you encourage with a text prayer this week?
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SERVE YOUR COMMUNITY

Establish a regular rhythm of serving together! Below are some service opportunities.

- BENSON - Serve with us at ABIDE every 2nd Saturday.
- MILLARD - Serve with us at Heartland Hope every 4th Saturday.
- FREMONT - Serve with us at LifeHouse every 3rd Saturday.
- OMAHA - Serve with us at Open Door Mission every 4th Saturday.
- Or get to know your community, are there any needs/volunteer opportunities?