

# How to Enjoy a Christ-Centered Christmas

12/8/19

### 1. Practice Christ-centered w\_\_\_\_\_

**Matthew 2:1** Now after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea in the days of Herod the king, behold, magi from the east arrived in Jerusalem, saying,

- <sup>2</sup> "Where is He who has been born King of the Jews? For we saw His star in the east, and have come to worship Him."
- ... <sup>11</sup> And they came into the house and saw the Child with Mary His mother; and they fell down and worshiped Him; and opening their treasures they presented to Him gifts of gold and frankincense and myrrh.

**Hebrews 1:6** And when He again brings the first-born into the world, He says, "And let all the angels of God worship Him."

# 2. Practice Christ-centered h\_\_\_\_\_

Philippians 2:5 Have this attitude in yourselves which was also in Christ Jesus,

- <sup>6</sup> who, although He existed in the form of God, did not regard equality with God a thing to be grasped,
- <sup>7</sup> but emptied Himself, taking the form of a bond-servant, *and* being made in the likeness of men.
- <sup>8</sup> And being found in appearance as a man, He humbled Himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross.
- <sup>9</sup> Therefore also God highly exalted Him, and bestowed on Him the name which is above every name,
- <sup>10</sup> that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of those who are in heaven, and on earth, and under the earth,
- <sup>11</sup> and that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.
- <sup>12</sup> So then, my beloved, just as you have always obeyed, not as in my presence only, but now much more in my absence, work out your salvation with fear and trembling;
- <sup>13</sup> for it is God who is at work in you, both to will and to work for *His* good pleasure.
- <sup>14</sup> Do all things without grumbling or disputing;
- <sup>15</sup> that you may prove yourselves to be blameless and innocent, children of God above reproach in the midst of a crooked and perverse generation, among whom you appear as lights in the world,
- <sup>16</sup> holding fast the word of life, so that in the day of Christ I may have cause to glory because I did not run in vain nor toil in vain.

#### 3. Practice Christ-centered c\_\_\_\_\_

**Hebrews 2:17** ...He had to be made like His brethren in all things, that He might become a merciful and faithful high priest in things pertaining to God, to make propitiation for the sins of the people.

<sup>18</sup> For since He Himself was tempted in that which He has suffered, He is able to come to the aid of those who are tempted.

**Hebrews 4:14** Since then we have a great high priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus the Son of God, let us hold fast our confession.

- <sup>15</sup> For we do not have a high priest who cannot sympathize with our weaknesses, but One who has been tempted in all things as *we are, yet* without sin.
- <sup>16</sup> Let us therefore draw near with confidence to the throne of grace, that we may receive mercy and may find grace to help in time of need.
- **2 Corinthians 1:3** Blessed *be* the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of mercies and God of all comfort;
- <sup>4</sup> who comforts us in all our affliction so that we may be able to comfort those who are in any affliction with the comfort with which we ourselves are comforted by God.
- <sup>5</sup> For just as the sufferings of Christ are ours in abundance, so also our comfort is abundant through Christ.
- <sup>6</sup> But if we are afflicted, it is for your comfort and salvation; or if we are comforted, it is for your comfort, which is effective in the patient enduring of the same sufferings which we also suffer;
- <sup>7</sup> and our hope for you is firmly grounded, knowing that as you are sharers of our sufferings, so also you are *sharers* of our comfort.

## 4. Practice Christ-centered f

- **1 Timothy 1:15** It is a trustworthy statement, deserving full acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners, among whom I am foremost *of all*.
- <sup>16</sup> And yet for this reason I found mercy, in order that in me as the foremost, Jesus Christ might demonstrate His perfect patience, as an example for those who would believe in Him for eternal life.
- **Matthew 9:9** And as Jesus passed on from there, He saw a man, called Matthew, sitting in the tax office; and He said to him, "Follow Me!" And he rose, and followed Him.
- <sup>10</sup> And it happened that as He was reclining *at the table* in the house, behold many tax-gatherers and sinners came and were dining with Jesus and His disciples.
- <sup>11</sup> And when the Pharisees saw *this*, they said to His disciples, "Why is your Teacher eating with the tax-gatherers and sinners?"
- <sup>12</sup> But when He heard this, He said, "*It is* not those who are healthy who need a physician, but those who are sick.
- <sup>13</sup> "But go and learn what *this* means, 'I desire compassion, and not sacrifice,' for I did not come to call the righteous, but sinners."
- Luke 19:10 "...the Son of Man has come to seek and to save that which was lost."
- **Matthew 18:21** Then Peter came and said to Him, "Lord, how often shall my brother sin against me and I forgive him? Up to seven times?"
- <sup>22</sup> Jesus said to him, "I do not say to you, up to seven times, but up to seventy times seven.
- <sup>23</sup> "For this reason the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a certain king who wished to settle accounts with his slaves.
- <sup>24</sup> "And when he had begun to settle *them*, there was brought to him one who owed him ten thousand talents.
- <sup>25</sup> "But since he did not have *the means* to repay, his lord commanded him to be sold, along with his wife and children and all that he had, and repayment to be made.
- <sup>26</sup> "The slave therefore falling down, prostrated himself before him, saying, 'Have patience with me, and I will repay you everything.'
- <sup>27</sup> "And the lord of that slave felt compassion and released him and forgave him the debt.

- <sup>28</sup> "But that slave went out and found one of his fellow slaves who owed him a hundred denarii; and he seized him and *began* to choke *him*, saying, 'Pay back what you owe.'
- <sup>29</sup> "So his fellow slave fell down and *began* to entreat him, saying, 'Have patience with me and I will repay you.'
- <sup>30</sup> "He was unwilling however, but went and threw him in prison until he should pay back what was owed.
- <sup>31</sup> "So when his fellow slaves saw what had happened, they were deeply grieved and came and reported to their lord all that had happened.
- <sup>32</sup> "Then summoning him, his lord said to him, 'You wicked slave, I forgave you all that debt because you entreated me.
- <sup>33</sup> 'Should you not also have had mercy on your fellow slave, even as I had mercy on you?'
- <sup>34</sup> "And his lord, moved with anger, handed him over to the torturers until he should repay all that was owed him.
- <sup>35</sup> "So shall My heavenly Father also do to you, if each of you does not forgive his brother from your heart."

Romans 12:17 Never pay back evil for evil to anyone. Respect what is right in the sight of all men.

- <sup>18</sup> If possible, so far as it depends on you, be at peace with all men.
- <sup>19</sup> Never take your own revenge, beloved, but leave room for the wrath *of God*, for it is written, "Vengeance is Mine, I will repay," says the Lord.
- <sup>20</sup> "But if your enemy is hungry, feed him, and if he is thirsty, give him a drink; for in so doing you will heap burning coals upon his head."
- <sup>21</sup> Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.
- **13:1** Let every person be in subjection to the governing authorities. For there is no authority except from God, and those which exist are established by God.

5.	Practice	Christ-centered s

**Matthew 6:21** for where your treasure is, there will your heart be also.

All Scripture is from the NASV