

"The Christmas Gift We Actually Need"

THE BIG IDEA: Most of us receive gifts we don't really need or like. God gives, in His love for us, the greatest gift and one we actually need.

✓ <u>Foundational Truth</u>: Love for His Creation (including you) is the heart of God's response to fallen people.

Luke 2:1-7, 11 (ESV)

2 In those days a decree went out from Caesar Augustus that all the world should be registered. ² This was the first registration when Quirinius was governor of Syria. ³ And all went to be registered, each to his own town. ⁴ And Joseph also went up from Galilee, from the town of Nazareth, to Judea, to the city of David, which is called *Bethlehem*, because he was of the house and lineage of David, ⁵ to be registered with Mary, his betrothed, who was with child. ⁶ And while they were there, the time came for her to give birth. ⁷ And *she gave birth to her firstborn son* and wrapped him in swaddling cloths and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn.

¹¹ For unto you is born this day in the city of David a *Savior*, who is *Christ the Lord*.

3 QUESTIONS WE ALL NEED TO ASK:

- 1. How did Jesus come?
 - ✓ As a baby. As a human. In the most ordinary way.
 - ✓ In all the ways that fulfilled the prophecies of His coming.
 - ✓ As one who submitted Himself fully to His Father in every way in every moment of His life.
- 2. Why did Jesus come?
 - ✓ To be our "Savior who is Christ the Lord" [Luke 2:11]
 - ✓ John 3:16-17
- 3. What difference does it make that He came?

Romans 1:18 Ephesians 2:12-19 1 John 2:2, 25; 4:10

Christmas began in the heart of God. It is complete only when it reaches the heart of man.