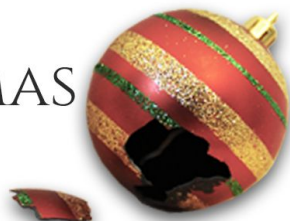


~~BEST~~ THE WORST CHRISTMAS EVER



Pastor Todd Schlechty
December 3, 2017

The Impossible Christmas
Luke 1:26-38

How many can't wait for Christmas?

How many are dreading Christmas?

Experiencing the ~~Worst~~ Best Christmas:

I. Christmas is _____.

Luke 1:26-29 *Now in the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent from God to a city in Galilee called Nazareth, ²⁷ to a virgin engaged to a man whose name was Joseph, of the descendants of David; and the virgin's name was Mary. ²⁸ And coming in, he said to her, "Greetings, favored one! The Lord is with you." ²⁹ But she was very perplexed at this statement, and kept pondering what kind of salutation this was.*

- Mary was nobody in the world's eyes, but she was called "favored one" by God's messenger.
- Grace confuses the world.

II. Christmas is _____.

Luke 1:30-34 *The angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary; for you have found favor with God. ³¹ And behold, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you shall name Him Jesus. ³² He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High; and the Lord God will give Him the throne of His father David; ³³ and He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and His kingdom will have no end." ³⁴ Mary said to the angel, "How can this be, since I am a virgin?"*

III. Christmas Means: The Impossible is _____.

Luke 1:35-38 *The angel answered and said to her, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; and for that reason the holy Child shall be called the Son of God. ³⁶ And behold, even your relative Elizabeth has also conceived a son in her old age; and she who was called barren is now in her sixth month. ³⁷ For nothing will be impossible with God." ³⁸ And Mary said, "Behold, the bondservant of the Lord; may it be done to me according to your word." And the angel departed from her.*

Point:

Doggy Bag: Something to take home and chew on!



1. How do you respond to the message of grace?
2. When have you been confused by God's love? By the incarnation? By Christmas?
3. When have you encountered grace that was unbelievable?
4. Have you ever experienced God call you to something that seemed impossible?
5. Have you ever doubted that God wanted to do something great for you or through you?
6. What is your impossible? What is the thing that you believe God has called you to, but you don't believe you can do?
7. What promise of God feels impossible to you?

If you'd like to talk personally and confidentially w/Pastor Todd about your relationship with Christ, please email pastortodd@thevineva.org or call 703-573-5836 to set up an appointment.