

~~BEST~~ THE WORST CHRISTMAS EVER

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Worst
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Make the Best of the

Luke 1:39-56

What is your best Christmas memory?

What is your worst Christmas memory?

Making the Best Christmas Ever:

I. Difficult Circumstances

- A. A Suffering World
- B. A Suffering Nation
- C. Suffering People

a. Elizabeth

Luke 1:5-7 *In the days of Herod, king of Judea, there was a priest named Zacharias, of the division of Abijah; and he had a wife from the daughters of Aaron, and her name was Elizabeth. ⁶They were both righteous in the sight of God, walking blamelessly in all the commandments and requirements of the Lord. ⁷But they had no child, because Elizabeth was barren, and they were both advanced in years.*

b. Mary

What are your difficult circumstances? _____

II. God's Christmas Response: _____

Luke 1:39-45 *Now at this time Mary arose and went in a hurry to the hill country, to a city of Judah, ⁴⁰and entered the house of Zacharias and greeted Elizabeth. ⁴¹When Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the baby leaped in her womb; and Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit. ⁴²And she cried out with a loud voice and said, "Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb! ⁴³And how has it happened to me, that the mother of my Lord would come to me? ⁴⁴For behold, when the sound of your greeting reached my ears, the baby leaped in my womb for joy. ⁴⁵And blessed is she who believed that there would be a*

fulfillment of what had been spoken to her by the Lord."

III. Responding to God's Christmas Presence: _____

Luke 1:46-55 *And Mary said: "My soul exalts the Lord, ⁴⁷and my spirit has rejoiced in God my Savior. ⁴⁸For He has had regard for the humble state of His bondservant; For behold, from this time on all generations will count me blessed. ⁴⁹For the Mighty One has done great things for me; And holy is His name. ⁵⁰AND HIS MERCY IS UPON GENERATION AFTER GENERATION TOWARD THOSE WHO FEAR HIM. ⁵¹He has done mighty deeds with His arm; He has scattered those who were proud in the thoughts of their heart. ⁵²He has brought down rulers from their thrones, And has exalted those who were humble. ⁵³HE HAS FILLED THE HUNGRY WITH GOOD THINGS; And sent away the rich empty-handed. ⁵⁴He has given help to Israel His servant, in remembrance of His mercy, ⁵⁵as He spoke to our fathers, to Abraham and his descendants forever."*

Point:

Doggy Bag: Something to take home and chew on!



1. What is it that makes the best Christmas for me?
2. How do I allow my circumstances to determine how I feel about myself, my worth, and who God is?
3. What would change if I knew that God was with me and for me regardless of my daily moods, circumstances and experiences?

If you'd like to talk personally and confidentially w/Pastor Todd about your relationship with Christ,

please email *pastortodd* [@thevineva.org](mailto:pastortodd@thevineva.org) or call 703-573-5836 to set up an appointment.