

# CHRIST IN CHRISTMAS

## PRECEPT

### JOHN 1:1-13

<sup>1</sup> In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. <sup>2</sup> He was in the beginning with God. <sup>3</sup> All things were made through Him, and without Him nothing was made that was made. <sup>4</sup> In Him was life, and the life was the Light of mankind. <sup>5</sup> The Light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it...

<sup>9</sup> The true Light, which gives light to everyone, was coming into the world. <sup>10</sup> He was in the world, and though the world was made through Him, the world did not recognize Him. <sup>11</sup> He came to that which was His own, but His own did not receive him. <sup>12</sup> But as many as received Him, to them He gave the right to become children of God, to those who believe in His name, <sup>13</sup> who were born, not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of a man, but of God.

## PROMISE

It's important to examine how we treat Jesus during the holidays. How much of Him, and His love for others, do we include in our schedules? Christmas isn't an abstract holiday or idea; Jesus came to earth (as a human) in order to reconcile us to God. He came in the flesh to redeem the world. Christmas is all about God's love for humanity, His love for you and me.

**CHRISTMAS IS WHEN THE CREATOR BECAME PART OF HIS CREATION SO WE CAN BE PART OF HIS FAMILY.** John 1 tells us all about how Christ pre-existed, co-existed, and self-existed in the beginning. All things came into existence through Him and for Him. In verse 14, it tells us that He became flesh to dwell among us. Colossians 1:15-16 also tells us this, *"<sup>15</sup> Christ is the visible image of the invisible God. He existed before anything was created and is supreme over all creation, <sup>16</sup> for through Him God created everything in the heavenly realms and on earth. He made the things we can see and the things we can't see—such as thrones, kingdoms, rulers, and authorities in the unseen world. Everything was created through Him and for Him."* We can know that the birth of Christ in the flesh is all about God becoming part of His creation so we can be part of His divine family. The whole motivation for His intention is love. He emptied Himself of His throne and joined the finite world of His creation as an expression of His love for His precious creation. C.S. Lewis said, *"The Eternal Being, who knows everything and who created the whole universe, became not only a man but (before that) a baby, and before that a fetus in a woman's body."*

**CHRISTMAS IS WHEN THE LIFE GAVE HIS LIFE SO WE CAN HAVE LIFE IN HIM.** He did not only become part of His creation, but also gave His life so we can have eternal life with Him. Verse 4 of John 1 says, *"<sup>4</sup> In Him was life, and the life was the Light of mankind."* In Greek, there are 3 words that pertain to life. Bios, which is biological life; Psuche, which is the inner-mental life, and Zoe, which is the eternal/divine life. John 10:10 tells us that it is God's desire for us to have a full life in Him. It says, *"The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy; I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full."*

**CHRISTMAS IS WHEN THE LIGHT SHINES HIS LIGHT SO WE CAN HAVE LIGHT IN THIS DARK WORLD.** Verse 5 and 9 says, *"<sup>5</sup> The Light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it... <sup>9</sup> The true Light, which gives light to everyone, was coming into the world."* This Light came into this dark world and He is Jesus, the Light of the World. Now and always is your opportunity to experience the fullness and satisfying life in Jesus and the Light of this dark world we are in today. Jesus came into a dark world to shine a bright, redeeming light. Let us also let our light shine by offering our lives as gifts to God.

## PRACTICE

**1. Christmas Season.** Knowing that Christmas is all about Christ, how would you celebrate this event this year?

**2. Application.** How will you share the truth about Christmas this season? Give some practical steps on how you will go about it.

## PRAYER

### I. Family

- Pray for all families to be united in God's love. May there be harmony and joy in every family.

### II. Church

- Pray that our church will be a vessel of God's love, grace, and mercy to everyone.

### III. Members

- Pray that all our members will have a deep intimacy with our Lord all the days of their lives.

### IV. Love

- May everything we do be done in love and may we love as to how God loves us unconditionally.

### V. Peace

- Pray for peace for all those who are suffering and anxious. May they entrust their lives to the Prince of Peace.

### VI. Provision

- Pray for provision and sustenance for all our brethren especially for those who are in need.

### VII. Grace

- Thank God for His daily sufficient grace that is available for all who calls on Him.