

First Baptist Church – Odessa

Pastor Byron McWilliams

Date: _____

“The Gift of Christmas”

“Can We Talk About Christmas” – Pt. 5

Mark 8:27-33 & Selected

To Understand the Gift of Christmas:

I. I must answer life’s most important question!

“And Jesus went on with His disciples to the villages of Caesarea Philippi. And on the way He asked His disciples, ‘Who do people say that I am?’” Vs. 27

- **The Public Confusion of People Today**

“And they told him, ‘John the Baptist; and others say, Elijah; and others, one of the prophets.’” Vs. 28

- **The Personal Conviction Needed by People Today**

“And He asked them, ‘But who do you say that I am?’ Peter answered Him, ‘You are the Christ.’” Vs. 29

“For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord.” Luke 2:11

Life’s Ultimate Question: *Who do you say Jesus is?*

II. I must understand the Savior’s ultimate purpose!

“And He began to teach them that the Son of Man must suffer many things and be rejected by the elders and the chief priests and the scribes and be killed, and after three days rise again.” Vs. 31

Jesus' Purpose Was...

- **Absolutely Necessary**

"She (Mary) will bear a son, and you shall call His name Jesus, for He will save His people from their sins." Matthew 1:21

- **Absolutely Miserable**

- **Absolutely Victorious**

- **Absolutely Planned**

"And Peter took Him aside and began to rebuke Him, saying, 'Far be it from you, Lord! This shall never happen to you.' But He turned and said to Peter, 'Get behind me, Satan! You are a hindrance to me. For you are not setting your mind on the things of God, but on the things of man.'" Matthew 16:22-23

III. I must receive the Savior's gift of eternal life!

"And this is the promise that He made to us – eternal life."

1 John 2:25

"And this is the testimony, that God gave us eternal life, and this life is in His Son. Whoever has the Son has life; whoever does not have the Son of God does not have life." 1 John 5:11-12