Dr. Ricky Cummings

Sermon:

The Meaning of Christmas

1 John 1:1-4 (ESV) ¹ That which was from the beginning, which we have heard, which we have seen with our eyes, which we looked upon and have touched with our hands, concerning the word of life— ² the life was made manifest, and we have seen it, and testify to it and proclaim to you the eternal life, which was with the Father and was made manifest to us— ³ that which we have seen and heard we proclaim also to you, so that you too may have fellowship with us; and indeed our fellowship is with the Father and with his Son Jesus Christ. ⁴ And we are writing these things so that our joy may be complete.

<u>John 1:1-4 (ESV)</u> ¹ In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. ² He was in the beginning with God. ³ All things were made through him, and without him was not any thing made that was made. ⁴ In him was life, and the life was the light of men.

1. Salvation is by grace.

<u>1 John 1:1 (ESV)</u> That which was from the beginning, which we have heard, which we have seen with our eyes, which we looked upon and have touched with our hands, concerning the <u>word of life</u>—

<u>John 14:6 (ESV)</u> Jesus said to him, "I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.

2. You can have fellowship with God.

1 John 1:2-3 (ESV) ² the life was made manifest, and we have seen it, and testify to it and proclaim to you the eternal life, which was with the Father and was made manifest to us— ³ that which we have seen and heard we proclaim also to you, so that you too may have fellowship with us; and indeed our fellowship is with the Father and with his Son Jesus Christ.

Because God has become a human being, we can see His glory in a way that otherwise would just overwhelm us.

God went to infinite lengths to get near you, to get close to you, so that you could know Him personally.

Christmas means God wants to be near you. He wants to be close to you.

3. Love really matters.

<u>John 1:1-2 (ESV)</u> ¹In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. ²He was in the beginning with God.

4. God gives complete joy.

1 John 1:4 (ESV) And we are writing these things so that our joy may be complete.