NO ROOM IN THE INN

The Road to the Manger: Week 3
December 7, 2025

Pastor Mark

"In those days a decree went out from Caesar Augustus that all the world should be registered. This was the first registration when Quirinius was governor of Syria. And all went to be registered, each to his own town. And Joseph also went up from Galilee, from the town of Nazareth to Judea, to the city of David, which is called Bethlehem, because he was of the house and lineage of David, to be registered with Mary, his betrothed, who was with child. And while they were there, the time came for her to give birth. And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in swaddling cloths and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn."

(Luke 2:1-7, ESV)

3 Ways We Do NOT MAKE Room for Christ at Christmas

1. Over **COMPARE** ourselves to others.

"Don't be obsessed with getting more material things. Be relaxed with what you have. Since God assured us, I'll never let you down, never walk off and leave you."

(Hebrews 13:5, MSG)

"...watch out! Be on your guard against all kinds of greed; life does not consist in an abundance of possessions." (Luke 12:15, NIV)

2. OVEREXTEND ourselves with our time.

"Look carefully then how you walk, not as unwise but as wise, making the best use of the time, because the days are evil." (Ephesians 5:15-16)

"So, teach us to number our days, that we may present to you a heart of wisdom." (Psalms 90:12, NAS)

3. OVERSPEND our resources.

"The rich rule over the poor, and the borrower is the slave to the lender." (Proverbs 22:7)

"Plan carefully and you will have plenty; if you act too quickly, you will never have enough." (Proverbs 21:5, GNB)

3 Ways You Can MAKE Room for Christ at Christmas

1. Desire a **LONGING** for Christ.

"I'm homesick - longing for your salvation; I'm waiting for your word of hope."
(Psalm 119:81, MSG)

"Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! In his great mercy he has given us new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead..."

(1 Peter 1:3, NIV)

"May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in him, so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit." (Romans 15:13, NIV)

Action Step: Connect with Jesus.

2. Shine the <u>LIGHT</u> of Christ.

"...for at one time you were darkness, but now you are light in the Lord. Walk as children of light..." (Ephesians 5:8, ESV)

"You are the light of the world. A city built on a hill cannot be hid. No one after lighting a lamp puts it under the bushel basket, but on the lampstand, and it gives light to all in the house. In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father in heaven." (Matthew 5:14-16, NRS)

Action Step: Give to the Peace on Earth Offering

3. Share the LOVE of Christ.

"For this is how God loved the world: He gave his one and only Son, so that everyone who believes in him will not perish but have eternal life." (John 3:16, NLT)

"Three things will last forever—faith, hope, and love—and the greatest of these is love."
(1 Corinthians 13:13, NLT)

"We love each other because he loved us first." (1 John 4:19, NLT)

Action Step: Invite to Candlelight.