MAKING ROOM FOR JESUS?

December 24th, 2021 Pastor Craig Coulter

"In those days Caesar Augustus issued a decree that a census should be taken of the entire Roman world. This was the first census that took place while Quirinius was governor of Syria. And everyone went to his own town to register. So Joseph also went up from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to Bethlehem the town of David, because he belonged to the house and line of David. He went there to register with Mary, who was pledged to be married to him and was expecting a child. While they were there, the time came for the baby to be born, and she gave birth to her firstborn, a son. She wrapped him in cloths and placed him in a manger, because there was NO ROOM FOR THEM in the inn." (Luke 2:1-7 NIV)

WHY DO WE HAVE NO ROOM FOR JESUS?

1. WE CROWD OUR LIVES WITH OTHER THINGS!

"They are <u>overwhelmed</u> with worries about <u>all the things</u> they <u>have to do</u> and all the things they <u>want to get</u>. The <u>stress strangles</u> what they heard, and nothing comes of it." (Mark 4:10 MSG)

"Make sure you don't become <u>SO FULL</u> of <u>yourself</u> and <u>your things</u> that you forget God!" (Deuteronomy 8:14 MSG)

2. WE THINK WE <u>DON'T NEED TO</u> MAKE ROOM FOR HIM.

"People are too proud to seek God. They do not look for Him; there is <u>no room for God in their thoughts."</u> (Psalm 10:4 NCV)

"We're all like sheep who've wandered off and gotten lost. We've all <u>done our own</u> <u>thing</u>, <u>gone our own way</u>." (Isaiah 53:6 MSG)

WHY SHOULD I MAKE ROOM FOR JESUS?

1. TO KNOW <u>JESUS – WHO LOVES ME!</u>

"For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever <u>believes</u> in him shall not perish but have eternal life." (John 3:16 NIV)

"He came to the world, which belonged to Him, but those who were His did not receive Him and did not welcome Him. But to those who DID receive and welcome Him, He gave the privilege and power to become the children of God, because they believe in His name!" (John 1:11-12 Amp)

2. TO ENJOY A LIFE OF <u>PURPOSE</u>, <u>PEACE AND POWER!</u>

"The smallness you feel comes from within you. Your lives aren't small, but you're living them in a small way... <u>Open up your lives</u>. Live openly and expansively!" (2 Corinthians 6:12-13 MSG)

"I am leaving you with a gift - <u>peace of mind and heart!</u> And the peace I give you isn't fragile like the peace the world gives. So you won't be <u>troubled or afraid</u>." (John 14:27 LB)

"God does not give us a spirit that makes us afraid or fearful. Instead He gives us a spirit of <u>power</u> and <u>love</u> and <u>self-control</u>." (2 Timothy 1:7 NCV)

"In LOVE there is NO ROOM for fear, but perfect love drives out all fear!" (1 John 4:18)

HOW DO I MAKE ROOM FOR JESUS?

• **INVITE HIM IN!**

Jesus: "Listen! I am standing and knocking at your door. If you hear my voice and open the door, I will come in and we will eat together." (Revelation 3:20 CEV)