



Bible study for the week starting December 10, 2023

SHARE

Share your favorite Christmas memories from your past. Describe your perfect or ideal Christmas this year.

What is your favorite handmade Christmas decoration?

READ/STUDY/DISCUSS

1. Read **Psalm 90:12-17**
 - a. Advent reminds us on the tension between numbering our days and asking for the Lord's return.
 - b. How ready are you for the Lord's second coming?
2. Read **Matt 18:1-6**
 - a. Do you ever have the desire to be the greatest? Feel the need to be the best?
 - b. How does Jesus measure greatness in a way that is maybe different than we do?
3. Read **Matt 18:10-14**
 - a. God seeks the lost, the lowly, and ordinary. (Where do we see this in the Christmas story?) How is this a comfort? How does this challenge you?
4. Read **2 Corinthians 4:5-12**
 - a. Clay jars were disposable. Do you ever feel disposable? Like you are not worth enough?
 - b. "The gospel is this: We are more sinful and flawed in ourselves than we ever dared believe, yet at the very same time we are more loved and accepted in Jesus Christ than we ever dared hope."
-Tim Keller
5. Read **2 Corinthians 4:16**
 - a. How can our inner self be renewed when we our outer self is being drained?

PRAY

Thank you Lord for not throwing away that which the world throws away. And that you treasure us as your dearly loved children.



HANDMADE

2 Cor. 4:5-12 (Psalm 90:12-17, Matt 18:1-5;10-14)

December 10, 2023 – Pastor Ben Schrank

“So teach us to number our DAYS that we may get a heart of wisdom. RETURN, O LORD! How long?” Psalm 90:12-13

DISASTER _____ PERFECTION

“Maybe Christmas,” he thought, “doesn’t come from a STORE, maybe Christmas ... perhaps ... means a little bit MORE.” – DR. S

Christmas reminds us of God’s affection for the LOWLY and the ordinary.

Stop doing GREAT things for God, start doing ORDINARY things for Him.

Your VALUE is given; not earned.

“The gospel is this: We are more sinful and FLAWED in ourselves than we ever dared believe, yet at the very same time we are more loved and ACCEPTED in Jesus Christ than we ever dared hope.” -Tim Keller

“So we do not lose heart. Though our OUTER self is wasting away, our INNER self is being renewed day by day.” 2 Cor. 4:16