



Bible study for the week starting December 5, 2021
Jesus Saves Christmas from Karma

SHARE

1. Have you ever used an Advent Calendar? What was your favorite, either from childhood or more recently? What's the point of all this?

READ/STUDY/DISCUSS

2. Read Deuteronomy 8:19-20. While we don't believe in "Christian/Christmas Karma" as we heard in the sermon, what blessings and curses are attached to this life? To eternity? What do we learn about threats and promises from God in this story from Deuteronomy 8?
3. Read Romans 5:6-11, 15 (or more verses, if you'd like). What do we learn from this framework that counters the idea that "the sum of our actions will decide our future fate?" What's the Biblical framework God builds?
4. Read John 9:1-7, 18-34. What was the flawed worldview that kept coming up regarding the blind man and sin? This was obviously an important story, as it takes up a whole chapter of John's Gospel. What lessons do you take away from it?
5. The influences of "karma" making its way into the thoughts and speech of Christians are subtle...but common. How can we protect what we believe/teach/confess from this way of thinking?

PRAY FOR AND WITH ONE ANOTHER

6. This time between Thanksgiving and Christmas has the potential to be either a very special or very stressful time of the year (or both!). Pray for one another, that you would find margin in your lives for God's Word, for worship, for beautiful music, and for time spent with others and our Lord during this season.



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John 9:1-7, 18-34

December 5, 2021 – Pastor Eric Van Scharrel

Does Christmas need saving? Exhibit A: the Advent CALENDAR

Where the SECULAR and SACRED overlap

KARMA is not a Christian ideal

The central story of salvation is that Jesus got what He DIDN'T deserve to that you don't get what you DO deserve.

Is that a THREAT? No, it's a PROMISE!

A man born blind: "Who SINNED?"

NO gifts? Or UNEXPECTED gifts?

"The FREE gift is not like the TRESPASS." -Romans 5:15