

# A Time for Healing a Time for Hope

## Part 1—Don't Miss Christmas . . .

### A Savior Is Born!

#### 1. Why People Often Miss Christmas.

- Three reasons:

- \_\_\_\_\_ (The Innkeeper)

*Luke 2:6-7—<sup>6</sup>And while they were there, the time came for her baby to be born; <sup>7</sup>and she gave birth to her first child, a son. She wrapped him in a blanket and laid him in a manger, because there was no room for them in the village inn. (TLB)*

- \_\_\_\_\_ (The Religious Leaders)

*Matthew 2:4-5—<sup>4</sup>Herod called a meeting of all the leading priests and teachers of the law and asked them where the Christ would be born. <sup>5</sup>They answered, “In the town of Bethlehem in Judea. The prophet [Micah] wrote about this in the Scriptures.” (NCV)*

*Ephesians 4:18—<sup>18</sup>Their minds are in the dark, and they are stubborn . . . so they have missed out on the life that comes from God.” (CEV)*

- \_\_\_\_\_ (King Herod)

*Matthew 2:3—<sup>3</sup>When Herod the king heard this, he was troubled, and all Jerusalem with him. (NASB)*

*1 Timothy 6:21—<sup>21</sup>Some people have missed the most important thing in life—they don't know God! (TLB)*

#### 2. How to Not Miss Christ This Christmas.

- Three things:

- \_\_\_\_\_ filling my life with less important things

*Psalm 39:6—<sup>6</sup>All [man's] busy rushing ends in nothing. He heaps up riches for someone else to spend. (TLB)*

*Psalm 46:10a—<sup>10</sup>Be still and know that I am God! (NCV)*

*Proverbs 10:27a—<sup>27</sup>Reverence for God adds hours to each day. . . (TLB)*

- \_\_\_\_\_ closely at why Jesus came

*Matthew 2:8b—<sup>8</sup>. . . Go and make a careful search for the child. . . (GNT)*

*Jeremiah 29:13—<sup>13</sup>God says, “You will seek me and find me when you seek me with all your heart.” (ESV)*

- \_\_\_\_\_ to the good news of Christmas

*Luke 2:10-11—<sup>10</sup>The angel said, “Fear not, for behold, I bring you good news of great joy! <sup>11</sup>. . . a Savior has been born for you—he is Christ the Lord.” (ESV)*

*John 10:10—<sup>10</sup>Jesus said, “I have come so that you may have life and have it to the fullest!” (NIV)*

*John 3:17—<sup>17</sup>For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn it, but to save the world through him. (NIV)*

#### 3. For a New Life at Christmas . . .

- Three suggestions:

- \_\_\_\_\_!

*1 Peter 2:24—<sup>24</sup>Christ carried the burden of our sins. He was nailed to the cross, so we would stop sinning and start living right. By his cuts and bruises you are healed. (CEV)*

- \_\_\_\_\_!

*Isaiah 45:22—<sup>22</sup>Let all the world LOOK to me for salvation! For I am God and there is no other! (NLT)*

- \_\_\_\_\_!

*2 Corinthians 6:2—<sup>2</sup>Listen to what God says: This is the hour to receive God's favor! Today is the day to be saved! (TEV)*

### **Action Step . . .**

- Focus on God!