

HOLIDAYS SERIES

# EPISODE 3: CHRISTMAS: THE SAVIOR HAS COME

## look back

First, **LOOK BACK** at the past week by asking, "How did we do?" Begin with prayer, then check in with one another—sharing honestly, celebrating victories, acknowledging struggles, and graciously offering practical help.

**PRAYER** - Begin with prayer, thanking God for sending His Son and asking Him to help you experience the joy and wonder of Christmas in a fresh way.

**Follow Up on Last Episode's Assignment**

- What Advent practice did you choose to help you slow down and focus on Christ?
- What did you enjoy or find meaningful about it?
- Where have you noticed the wonder of Christ's coming in a fresh way this season?

## look up

Next, **LOOK UP** to God's Word by asking, "What does Jesus want us to know?" If you haven't already, watch this week's video: *"Christmas: The Savior Has Come."* Then use the summary, questions, and Scriptures below to draw out the main truths together.

**WATCH: Episode 3: Christmas: The Savior Has Come**

**Episode Summary**

Christmas gives us a unique opportunity to celebrate the greatest gift of all: God sending His Son into the world. With a little intentionality, the familiar parts of Christmas, family conversations, the story of Jesus' birth, opening presents, and gathering around the table, can help us remember and share the wonder of the Gospel.

By asking thoughtful questions, practicing gratitude, respecting family relationships, and inviting God into our plans through prayer, Christmas Day can become a joyful opportunity to build gospel bridges with those we love.

*Christmas gives us a natural opportunity to share the story of Jesus.*

### HOW TO USE THESE RESOURCES

Whether you're studying on your own or with a group, each guide follows a simple yet powerful rhythm: **Look Back / Look Up / Look Forward.** For group leaders, additional instructions for leading a small group are included at the end of the first workbook in each series.

### ABOUT THIS STUDY

The holidays give us wonderful opportunities to celebrate God's goodness and strengthen the relationships that matter most. But the holidays can wear us out and family gatherings can be potentially explosive. This four-part series offers biblical wisdom and practical ideas for making Thanksgiving, Advent, and Christmas gatherings more meaningful. Along the way, we'll explore how to slow down, enjoy one another, navigate family tensions with grace, and keep Christ at the heart of the season.

### WHAT DO YOU THINK?

1. What parts of Christmas Day have brought you and your family the most joy over the years?
2. What details of the nativity story do you find most interesting, and how might you share them with your family?
3. What could help your family enjoy Christmas gifts with greater gratitude for both the gifts and the people who gave them?
4. What would help keep Christ at the center of your Christmas celebration without making the day feel forced or overly structured?
5. How can the gifts and traditions we already enjoy at Christmas point naturally toward God's greatest gift in Jesus?

## WHAT DOES GOD'S WORD SAY?

### KEY SCRIPTURE

**Luke 2:10–14 - "But the angel said to them, 'Do not be afraid. I bring you good news that will cause great joy for all the people. Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; he is the Messiah, the Lord. This will be a sign to you: You will find a baby wrapped in cloths and lying in a manger.'**

**"Suddenly a great company of the heavenly host appeared with the angel, praising God and saying,**

**'Glory to God in the highest heaven,**
**and on earth peace to those on whom his favor rests.'"**

After generations of waiting, the promised Savior had come. The angels announced Christmas as **good news of great joy**—a fitting reminder that Christ, rather than the activity surrounding the holiday, is at the heart of our celebration.

### SUPPORTING SCRIPTURE

**John 3:16–17 - "For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life. For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but to save the world through him."** Christmas is ultimately the story of God's generosity. He gave His Son because He loves us, making every Christmas celebration an opportunity to remember and rejoice in the greatest gift we have received.

## *look forward*

Finally, **LOOK FORWARD** by asking, "What does Jesus want us to do?" Commit to practical steps for living out this week's lesson. Review the assignment, share commitments with the group, pray for one another, and move forward together in faith and hope.

### ADDITIONAL REFERENCES

Isaiah 9:6
Philippians 4:6–7
1 Peter 3:15–16

### THIS EPISODE'S ASSIGNMENT

Choose one simple way to keep Christ at the center of your Christmas celebration. You might read the Christmas story together, slow down the way your family opens gifts, ask a thoughtful question about Jesus' birth, or take a moment to thank God together.

Before Christmas Day, ask God to help you recognize natural opportunities for gratitude, meaningful conversation, and joy.

Pray for one opportunity to share the Gospel through the Christmas story with someone this season, and when the opportunity comes, take it.

### PERSONAL GROWTH COMMITMENTS

- What has God laid on my heart?
- What is the Holy Spirit leading me to change?
- What will I do in my own life, in my relationships, and to strengthen my family?

### SHARE WITH THE GROUP

Encourage sharing commitments, prayer needs, and ideas for making Christmas meaningful without making it complicated. Close in prayer, thanking God for the gift of His Son and asking Him to fill your Christmas celebration with gratitude, joy, and opportunities to share the real reason for the season.