



REDEMPTION
CITY CHURCH

**The Arrival Week # 2
The Heart of Christmas:
"The Gift That Keeps
On Giving."**



Sticky Statement:

**GOD GAVE HIS BEST SO THAT WE COULD LIVE
OUR BEST LIVES WITH HIM.**

The heart of Christmas is the expression of GOD's love towards humanity. HE chose to offer up HIS SON to pay for our sins who don't deserve it so we can receive the gift of Salvation. It has absolutely nothing to do with celebrating JESUS' birthday, lights, trees, decorations or Santa Claus. GOD wants HIS creation/family back together.

GOD So Loved... "For GOD so loved the world that HE gave HIS only begotten SON, that whoever believes in HIM should not perish but have everlasting life." Jn 3:16

Because GOD gave, we give, but we are seeking to get presents and not seeking to get into HIS presence.

Mankind has been separated from GOD because of disobedience which leads to sin. GOD is a holy and a just GOD HE has no fellowship with darkness. Because GOD loves mankind so much, HE had to devise a plan (Salvation) to reunite HIMSELF back to HIS creation.

Plan of Salvation (GOD'S GIFT) The goal of Salvation is that we will be brought back into union with GOD.

Regeneration - is the great change in those who decide to follow JESUS. Which is the restoration of the divine nature that is in us. This is how we start developing GODLY character. The heart is the theatre of the operation, and the change is in the disposition of the heart.

HOW DO WE GET BACK TO GOD'S PRESENCE...

**1. GOD WANTS MANKIND TO _____ IN JESUS
WHO IS GOD'S PLAN OF SALVATION.**

"if you confess with your mouth that JESUS is Lord and believe in your heart that GOD raised HIM from the dead, you will be saved."

Rom. 10:9

"For by grace, you have been saved through faith, and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of GOD, not of works lest any man should boast." Eph. 2:8,9

**2. GOD WANTS TO RE _____ MANKIND
BACK TO HIMSELF.**

"Now all things are of GOD, who has reconciled us to HIMSELF through JESUS CHRIST, and has given us the ministry of reconciliation, that is that GOD was in CHRIST reconciling the world to HIMSELF, not imputing their trespasses to them, and has committed to us the word of reconciliation."

2 Cor. 5:18, 19

**3. GOD WANTS US TO _____ THE GIFT OF
SALVATION SO THAT HE CAN...**

"For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of GOD is eternal life in CHRIST JESUS our Lord." Rom. 6:23

BENEFITS OF THE GIFT ARE AS FOLLOWS:

"Re" = is a common prefix meaning again or back to the original status.

THE GIFT - restores us – (Jn. 1:12); renews us - (Rom. 12:2); rewards us – (Jn 10:10); redeems us (Eph. 1:7)

HOW DO WE RECIEVE THE GIFT?

Repent – "Repent then, and turn to GOD, so that your sins may be wiped out, that times of refreshing may come from the Lord." Acts 3:19

Reborn - JESUS replied, "very truly I tell you, no one can see the Kingdom of GOD unless they are born again." Jn 3:3

Conclusion -GOD wants to be in a relationship with you so much that HE has offered us a gift in HIS SON JESUS, and we must decide whether we will receive it or reject it. **THE QUESTION IS WILL YOU RECEIVE THE GIFT TODAY?**

DO THE WORD - Seek to be in the presence of GOD to get to know HIM and don't seek HIM to see what you can get from HIM.