



**Christmas Eve**  
**December 23-24, 2018**  
**Darryl Mosley, Senior Pastor**  
**Dave Irwin, Pastor of Ministry**  
**Message: "The Christmas Table"**

**Text:** Matthew 1:18-23, 2:1-12

### **Big idea**

Our seat has been reserved, but we must respond to the invitation.

### **Responses to Jesus**

1. Invited but \_\_\_\_\_

Luke 2:22-38 = the crowd at the temple

Matthew 2:4-6 = chief priests and teachers

2. Invited but \_\_\_\_\_

Matthew 2-3, 7-8 = Herod

3. Invited and \_\_\_\_\_

Matthew 2:1-2 = Magi

Luke 2:8-16 = shepherds

### **How to respond to Jesus' invitation**

1. A tragic separation - Sin damages your relationship with God  
Romans 3:23
2. An invitation to believe - Jesus has already done His part to restore your relationship to God  
Romans 6:23
3. Accept God's invitation - If you want to take your reserved seat at God's table you must:
  - A. Admit that God has not been first place in your life and ask Him to forgive your sins (1 John 1:9)
  - B. Believe that Jesus died to pay for your sins and that He rose on the third day and is alive today (Romans 10:9)
  - C. Commit your life to Jesus Christ and allow Him to be the director or Lord of your life (Revelation 3:20)

#### **MY NEXT STEP TODAY IS TO:**

- ☐ Tell somebody about your decision to trust and follow Jesus tonight (either the person who invited you or let us know on your Connection Section)
- ☐ If you have questions or doubts, join us for ALPHA in January or email us at [info@staffordcrossing.org](mailto:info@staffordcrossing.org)
- ☐ Read the story of the birth of Jesus in Matthew 1 and Luke 2
- ☐ Join us for a Sunday service soon
- ☐ Tell the people gathered around your table the story of Christmas

*We exist to help people trust and follow Jesus.*