

HOPE IS BORN
Presents to Presence
John 1
Week 4 December 22, 2019
Pastor Mike Popovich

The greatest gift ever given was the presence of Jesus.

When John tells us about the coming of Jesus he does not use the cultural moment of His birth in Bethlehem. He goes all the way back to the beginning.

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. John 1:1 NIV

The greatest gift ever given was the presence of Jesus, God with us.

The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us. We have seen his glory, the glory of the one and only Son, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth.

John 1:14 NIV

The Message reads: *The Word became flesh and blood, and moved into the neighborhood.*

1. The Best Gifts Are Gifts Given With Thoughtfulness

Jesus' coming to earth was planned.

And I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your offspring and hers; he will crush your head, and you will strike his heel."

Genesis 3:15 NIV

The future planning for Christmas began here in the Garden.

Isaiah 53:4-5 NIV By His wounds and suffering we are healed.

Someone is coming

2. When Sacrifice Is Required

We tend to be selfish.

But we need a Savior to teach us how to put others first.

Yet to all who did receive him, to those who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God.

John 1:12 NIV

3. You Must Recognize Your Need To Receive The Gift

To enjoy His presence means being honest about the void in our lives that only He can fill.

Jesus is the light in the darkness.

In him was life, and that life was the light of all mankind. ⁵ The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.

John 1:4-5

The darkness could not overcome it.
The darkness cannot extinguish it.