



This is how much God loved the world: He gave his Son, his one and only Son. And this is why: so that no one need be destroyed; by believing in him, anyone can have a whole and lasting life.

God didn't go to all the trouble of sending his Son merely to point an accusing finger, telling the world how bad it was. He came to help, to put the world right again.

John 3:16-17

“Give Differently”

December 16, 2018

God gave Jesus to the world because God loves the world. – John 3:16

“the world” *kosmos* refers to those who are at _____ with Jesus and God.



“When nobody else loves you, Jesus does. He is always there.”

– Whitney Houston

What we celebrate at Christmas is *the Incarnation*: the moment Jesus, the divine Son of the eternal Father, entered our story as a baby.

Jesus _____ to become one of us.

Jesus Christ is called the “_____ of God” because He is of the same substance as God; fully God and also fully human.

Christianity is founded on who Jesus _____ rather than just what He said.

Three things the Bible teaches about giving good gifts:

1. God did not give us stuff. God gave us his _____. Matthew 1:23
Emmanuel means “God _____ us.”

How can you be _____ to someone this Christmas?

2. The gift of Jesus was _____. Luke 2:8-12

The angel said to _____, ‘Do not be afraid...’ to _____ is born.

A father gave his daughter two beautiful blank journals.

This requires we _____ down enough to pay attention to another person.

3. God’s gift was _____. Philippians 2:4-8

The gift God gave cost him _____.

Great gifts require _____ and risk rejection and misunderstanding.



Our gifts re-present to the world the gift of Jesus who lives in us.

The Problem and Solution: John 1:9-14 (The Message)

Will we notice God with us this Christmas?

God is “_____ inside and out, true from start to finish.”

Action Steps: *I want you to give a thoughtful gift*

to someone who doesn’t deserve it. – Pastor Mark

Why? Because it re-_____ God’s love for us even though we didn’t and don’t deserve it.

_____ a child’s life by giving to the mission offering this Christmas.