

**Missing Christmas**

Selected Scriptures

**1. The \_\_\_\_\_ missed Christmas because he was too \_\_\_\_\_.** (Luke 2:6-7)

But this innkeeper had let his busyness cause him to miss the one thing that he should have been looking for, waiting for, his whole life: His \_\_\_\_\_!

And Christmas is just one day. Most people live this way year round: too busy for \_\_\_\_\_.

**2. \_\_\_\_\_ missed Christmas because he was \_\_\_\_\_.** (Matt. 2:1-4, 7-8, 16)

And he was incredibly afraid of losing his \_\_\_\_\_.

They reject Him because they are afraid to let anyone but \_\_\_\_\_ be King in their lives.

**3. The \_\_\_\_\_ missed Christmas because of their \_\_\_\_\_.** (Matt. 2:4-6)

But you know what is the dead giveaway about their proud indifference? They didn't even care to go there. No one went to \_\_\_\_\_ except the magi.

So billions of people today miss Christmas because they are so \_\_\_\_\_ in their false religion that they never even look at Jesus, except maybe to hate Him.

**4. The people of \_\_\_\_\_ missed Christmas because of \_\_\_\_\_.** (Matt. 2:21-23)

When Jesus preached in their synagogue, near the start of His ministry, the people of Nazareth utterly \_\_\_\_\_ Him.

Some people miss Christmas because they've heard and seen it all \_\_\_\_\_ it all before and it's just not getting through any more.

**5. The people of \_\_\_\_\_ missed Christmas because they were \_\_\_\_\_.** (Luke 2:20, 25-38)

The \_\_\_\_\_ told them, and they missed it. (2:20)

An old priest named \_\_\_\_\_ told them, and they missed it. (Luke 2:25-35)

The prophetess \_\_\_\_\_ told them, and they missed it. (Luke 2:36-38)

They were so busy with their religion, carrying out their ritual that they missed the \_\_\_\_\_.

**Calvary Connection Group**  
Discussion Questions for the week of Dec. 16, 2018

**Getting to Know Me**

- If you could live anywhere in the world, and money was no object, where would you live? Why?
  
- What person or persons, besides your parents, influenced you for good more than anyone else? How?

**Into the Bible**

- What one thing stood out to you in this week's sermon as something important to understand and apply?
  
- Busyness is a fact of life at Christmas time, and most times of the year. Read Luke 10:38-42; Matt. 6:25-34; Ps. 127:1-2; Phil. 4:6; Ex. 20:8-11. How does the Bible tell us we should deal with busyness as followers of Jesus?
  
- Many people, like Herod, are afraid to let anyone be king of their lives but themselves. The root issue here is trust. Why do so many people find it hard to trust that God is (Heb. 11:6), and that He is good (Jer. 29:11), and that He is powerful (Ps. 37:5-6)? Hint: See 1 John 4:18; Prov. 29:25; Ps. 56:3-4.
  
- Most people today have bought the lie of evolution, that we are here only by chance. Yet in their pride, paradoxically, those same people will say that man is basically good and only needs the right environment and nurture to be better and ultimately perfect. Most of the world's religions would agree, because they focus on working for salvation. What does the Bible say about man's innate goodness? (Rom. 3:10-12, 23; 1 John 1:8-10) Who is the only person ever born basically good? (Luke 1:35; Heb. 4:14-16)

**Application**

- Which of the issues identified in this week's sermon (busyness, fear, pride, familiarity, and religiousness) do you struggle with the most in your devotion to Christ? (Don't worry, we all struggle with all of them at some level, so you can be honest. No one will judge you.)
  
- What is one specific thing that you can do this week to help strengthen the weak area that you identified above? If you can't think of one, ask the people in your group to help you come up with one you think you can do. Make a commitment to your group members to do it and ask them to check on you next week.