

Helping People See Jesus (2 Corinthians 4:1-11) December 3, 2023

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The Devil is working to blind people to the things of God

stories@visitgracechurch.com

But even if our gospel is veiled, it is veiled to those who are perishing, 2 Corinthians 4:3 NKJV

whose minds the god of this age has blinded, who do not believe, lest the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God, should shine on them. **2 Corinthians 4:4 NKJV**

We have the Spirit so people see Jesus in us

Now the Lord is the Spirit; and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is liberty. 2 Corinthians 3:17 NKJV

But we all, with unveiled face, beholding as in a mirror the glory of the Lord, are being transformed into the same image from glory to glory, just as by the Spirit of the Lord. **2 Corinthians 3:18 NKJV**

Therefore, since we have this ministry, as we have received mercy, we do not lose heart. **2 Corinthians 4:1 NKJV**

We share the gospel, so people hear about Jesus from us

But we have renounced the hidden things of shame, not walking in craftiness nor handling the word of God deceitfully, but by manifestation of the truth commending ourselves to every man's conscience in the sight of God. **2 Corinthians 4:2 NKJV**

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For we do not preach ourselves, but Christ Jesus the Lord, and ourselves your bondservants for Jesus' sake. **2 Corinthians 4:5 NKJV**

For it is the God who commanded light to shine out of darkness, who has shone in our hearts to [give] the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ. **2 Corinthians 4:6 NKJV**

Gods lets us suffer so people see Jesus through us

But we have this treasure in earthen vessels, that the excellence of the power may be of God and not of us. **2 Corinthians 4:7 NKJV**

[We are] hard-pressed on every side, yet not crushed; [we are] perplexed, but not in despair; **2 Corinthians 4:8 NKJV**

persecuted, but not forsaken; struck down, but not destroyed-- 2 Corinthians 4:9 NKJV

always carrying about in the body the dying of the Lord Jesus, that the life of Jesus also may be manifested in our body. **2 Corinthians 4:10 NKJV**

For we who live are always delivered to death for Jesus' sake, that the life of Jesus also may be manifested in our mortal flesh. **2 Corinthians 4:11 NKJV**

This Week's New Testament + Reading Plan:

- 1. Matthew 9
- 2. Matthew 10
- 3. Matthew 11
- 4. Matthew 12
- 5. Matthew 13
- 6. Hosea 6
- 7. Prayer & Reflection

December 3

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In this series, we that Jesus was born on christmas, and that god gave Jesus to us. We discover all about the birth of Jesus, and that Jesus is gods son sent to earth for us.

Memory Verse: ""Jesus is God's Gift." Isaiah 9:6A (Adapted for toddlers)

Heart of the Lesson: Jesus is God's Gift, Born On Christmas

Parent Connect: Today we learned about Jesus' birth! We learned that Jesus Is God's gift, and that Jesus was a very special baby! This week, recreate the Nativity with this fun snack or lunch and retell the story of Jesus' birth with your kids!



In this series, we will learn of the great gift God gave to the world, the birth of His son Jesus! We will learn how an angel of the Lord visited Mary and Joseph, how they traveled afar to Bethlehem where Jesus was born in a manger. Praise the Newborn King!

Memory Verse: "And she will have a son, and you are to name him Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins." Matthew 1:21

Heart of the Lesson: Gabriel Brought Good News | Luke 1, Matthew 1

Parent Connect: Today we learned how an angel of the Lord, named Gabriel brought good news to Mary and Joseph! They were to be the earthly parents of Jesus Christ! Listen to some Christmas worship music to celebrate the good news of baby Jesus! Grace Kids Worship Playlist click here!

ELEMENTARY

WHO MISSED IT?

CRACKING THE CASE OF CHRISTMAS



3-week Christmas series means 3 opportunities for kids to be transformed into detective agents and discover "Who Missed It: Cracking the Case of Christmas." We will be examining the case files of Christmas found in Luke chapter 2 and Matthew chapters 1 & 2. Each week a suspect will be revealed as the person who missed out on celebrating's Christ's birth because they were too wrapped up in unbelief, busy-ness, or selfishness.

Memory Verse: "Without question, this is the great mystery of our faith: Christ was revealed in a human body..." 1 Timothy 3:16a

Heart of the Lesson: Doubt (not believing God) causes us to miss Jesus. - 1 Timothy 3:16, John 1:9-10, Luke 1:1-45

Parent Connect: Gather some craft materials, such as construction paper, markers, and glue. Have your child draw or write down all the things they believe about God on small pieces of paper. Then, have them build a bridge out of the paper pieces,

using glue to hold it together. Once the bridge is built, talk about how the bridge represents our faith in God. Just as the bridge connects us to something on the other side, our faith connects us to God.



How do we keep our eyes on Jesus during the holiday season? In our series People Who Missed Jesus, we will explore the stories of Zechariah, the Innkeeper, and King Herod to learn how doubt, busyness, and wanting control can sometimes make us miss the real meaning of Christmas - Jesus.

Memory Verse: "Without question, this is the great mystery of our faith: Christ was revealed in a human body..." 1 Timothy 3:16a

Heart of the Lesson: Unbelief causes us to miss Jesus - John 1:9-10, Luke 1:1-45, Mark 9:24

Parent Connect: Memorize Mark 9:24 and pray for God to help your unbelief in times of doubt.

SPECIAL NEEDS ADULTS

MISSING JESUS

Open our eyes to see Jesus this Christmas



Christmas is a big part of our year, but did you know it's easy to miss what Christmas is actually about? Christmas is about Jesus coming to Earth to live a perfect life, take away our sin, and invite us to be a part of God's family. This series, we're taking time to look at stories of people missing who Jesus was so we can learn more about how we can help ourselves and others "see" Jesus this Christmas!

Memory Verse: The god of this world has blinded the minds of those who don't believe. They can't see the light of the good news that makes Christ's glory clear. (2 Corinthians 4:4 NIRV)

Heart of the Lesson: Are the people around us missing Christmas because we're missing Christmas? (2 Corinthians 4:1-11)

Parents/Caregivers:

- Is it easy or hard for you to focus on Jesus' birth instead of all the other Christmas traditions?
- What is one way you can remember what Christmas is all about this year?
- What does it mean to you to shine the light of Jesus with others?
- Who can you share about Jesus with this week?