

Sermon Series:
“In the Name of Christmas”
Jesus: The Lord Saves

Dec. 13, 2009
Ephesians 2:1-5



Time in the Word

The Warm Up

- What did Jesus save you from? How do you know?
- What serves to remind you of sin in your life?

Read & Observe

Read Matthew 1:18-25, and Luke 1:26-38

What is different about these accounts?

How does Jesus get his name? Do you think that is important? Why or why not?

What does Jesus' name mean? Is that name fitting for Jesus? Why?

Answer

1. Reading Ephesians 2:1-5
 - a. What adjective is used to describe “you” in verse 1? And what made people that way? How is this like you? Can you remember when this reality first hit you?
 - b. The passage goes on to elaborate our condition, by saying that we “followed the ways of the world, and ruler of the kingdom of the air”. What do you think this means? Do you think that this was once you?
 - c. In verse 3 the author of this letter now, proves his previous thesis (we were all sinners, dead), by listing two common traits of humanity and an innately sinful nature. What are they? Can you then pick up on the conclusion the author makes? Do you agree with it? Is that how God saw you?
 - d. In verse 4, it says that God has _____ for us. It also says that He is _____ in _____. Do you believe this? How do you see these two qualities of God in your life? How do you struggle to see and believe that God is what he says he is?
 - e. Can you describe how Christ has made you alive? Can you articulate what happens in the heavenly court room? Why is it important that this was all done “by grace”? What does that even mean, “grace”?



Time for the Heart

Sometimes we become so used to hearing something that we kind of check it off. “I know, I know”, and we lose the meaning of it. Perhaps you did that to a parent when you were a kid, or you have a kid that does that to you. We begin this Christian walk overwhelmed with the love of God. But as time goes on we can take it for granted. What are some ways that we can once again be in awe of God's love for us through his son Jesus?