

# Good News of Great Joy

## STEPPING INTO CHRISTMAS

God desired to have a \_\_\_\_\_ with his creation.

The \_\_\_\_\_ becomes the Created.

Matthew 1:21 *She will give birth to a Son, and you are to give Him the name Jesus, because He will save His people from their sins.*

A \_\_\_\_\_ problem.

God chose that first Christmas to insert \_\_\_\_\_ into the earth and into the lives of mankind like he never had before.

The \_\_\_\_\_

Luke 2:1, 3-7 *Now in those days a decree went out from Caesar Augustus that a census should be taken of the whole empire...3 And everyone went to his own town to register.*

4 *So Joseph also went up from Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to the city of David called Bethlehem, since he was from the house and line of David. 5 He went there to register with Mary, who was pledged to him in marriage and was expecting a child. 6 While they were there, the time came for her Child to be born. 7 And she gave birth to her firstborn, a Son. She wrapped Him in swaddling cloths and laid Him in a manger, because there was no room for them in the inn.*

The \_\_\_\_\_

Luke 2:8-20 *And there were shepherds residing in the fields nearby, keeping watch over their flocks by night. 9 Just then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. 10 But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid! For behold, I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people: 11 Today in the city of David a Savior has been born to you. He is Christ the Lord! 12 And this will be a sign to you: You will find a baby wrapped in swaddling cloths and lying in a manger." 13 And suddenly there appeared with the angel a great multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying: 14 "Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace to men on whom His favor rests!"*

15 *When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, "Let us go to Bethlehem and see this thing that has happened, which the Lord has made known to us." 16 So they hurried off and found Mary and Joseph and the Baby, who was lying in the manger. 17 After they had seen the Child, they spread the message they had received about Him. 18 And all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds said to them. 19 But Mary treasured up all these things and pondered them in her heart. 20 The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, which was just as the angel had told them.*

The message of Jesus is for \_\_\_\_\_.

1. We need to \_\_\_\_\_ well.
2. We need to focus on the \_\_\_\_\_, not the messenger.
3. We need to \_\_\_\_\_ the message.

*Psalm 119:130 The unfolding of Your words gives light; it informs the simple.*

4. We need to \_\_\_\_\_ the message.
5. We need to make \_\_\_\_\_.

*John 3:16-17 For God so loved the world that (through this Christmas story) He gave (on that first Christmas) His one and only Son, that everyone who believes in Him shall not perish but have eternal life. 17 For God did not send His Son into the world to condemn the world, but to save the world through Him.*