

SOME GUIDELINES FOR CHRISTMAS
COLOSSIANS 3:12-17; 1 CORINTHIANS 10:31; 1 PETER 4:10-11

Introduction

AT ALL TIMES we who have **BELIEVED** on **CHRIST** are to **GLORIFY GOD IN OUR LIFE BY HOW WE LIVE OUR LIFE!**

However, in all of the **HUSTLE** and **BUSTLE** of **CHRISTMAS** it is easy to get so **WRAPPED UP** in the **HAPPENINGS** around us that we can forget **THE THINGS IN OUR LIFE THAT ARE MOST NEEDFUL!**

I. LET'S BE JOYFUL AT CHRISTMAS!

That has a lot to do with what we choose to **MAGNIFY!**

Mary

***Luke 1:46-47**—“And Mary said, My soul doth magnify the Lord, 47 And my spirit hath rejoiced in God my Saviour.”*

Joseph in ***Matthew 1:18-25***

The Shepherds

***Luke 2:10-11**—“10 And the angel said unto them, Fear not: for, behold, I bring you **good tidings of great joy**, which shall be to all people. 11 For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord.”*

The Wise Men

***Matthew 2:10**—“When they saw the star, they **rejoiced with exceeding great joy.**”*

Each of Us

***Romans 5:11**—“...but we also **joy in God through our Lord Jesus Christ**, by whom we have now received the atonement.*

***Romans 14:17-18**—“For the kingdom of God is not meat and drink; but righteousness, and peace, and **joy in the Holy Ghost.** 18 For he that in these things serveth Christ is acceptable to God, and approved of men.”*

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***Romans 15:13**—“Now the God of hope fill you with all joy and **peace in believing**, that ye may abound in hope, through the power of the Holy Ghost.”*

***Galatians 5:22**—“**But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith,**”*

Let's remember that we are celebrating one of the greatest events in the history of the world, and it has literally changed our lives and it can change the lives of others as well!

LET'S BE JOYFUL AT CHRISTMAS...

II. LET'S NOT FORGET TO NOURISH OUR SOUL!

It is great to thank **GOD** for and enjoy all the good things to eat that many of us will have, but we must also remember to **NOURISH OUR SOUL!**

***1 Peter 2:2**—“As newborn babes, desire the sincere milk of the word, that ye may grow thereby:”*

***James 1:21**—“Wherefore lay apart all filthiness and superfluity of naughtiness, and **receive with meekness the engrafted word**, which is able to save your souls.”*

Let's be sure to control our activities and schedules so that there is adequate time for **MEDITATION** and **CALM REFLECTION** of the **TRUTHS** related to this season.

III. LET'S KEEP CHRIST PREEMINENT IN OUR CHRISTMAS!

HE is our **KING** and wants this season properly observed.

***Colossians 1:18**—“And He is the head of the body, the church: who is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead; **that in all things he might have the preeminence.**”*

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Keep in mind the greatest **GIFT, JESUS CHRIST OUR SAVIOUR**, when buying, giving, or receiving **GIFTS!** Let's be sure to both **GIVE** and **RECEIVE IN LOVE!** (*John 3:16*)

Tell others about the **SAVIOUR** at **CHRISTMAS!** Some **KNOW LITTLE TO NOTHING ABOUT HIM;** others **KNOW ABOUT HIM** but don't **KNOW HIM** personally.

IV. LET'S PRAISE THE LORD DURING THE CHRISTMAS SEASON!

A. Let's Praise The LORD With Our Lips!

Let's join the **ANGELS** and **SHEPHERDS** of old and others in **GLORIFYING GOD.** Let's **SING** and **LISTEN** to beautiful music about the **BIRTH OF CHRIST!**

Luke 2:14—"Glory to God in the highest. . ."

Luke 2:20—"And the shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all the things that they had heard and seen, as it was told unto them."

Psalm 107

B. Let's Praise The LORD With Our Life!

Let's show to others that we belong to **JESUS!**

Even at **CHRISTMAS** parties and social gatherings, let's let both our **WORDS** and **ACTIONS** glorify **CHRIST!**

Let's be thoughtful of others at **CHRISTMAS** as a way of **MANIFESTING CHRIST!**

It could be a note to the lonely!

It could be through a kind word or action!

It could be through a special concern the **LORD** lays on your heart!

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It could be with **SHARING** with someone who is less fortunate than we are!

Conclusion

So, let's live this season in such a way that the **JOY** and **MEANING** and **SPIRIT** of **CHRISTMAS** is both **MANIFESTED IN** and **MAGNIFIED THROUGH** our life!

Seek to GLORIFY CHRIST in our CHRISTMAS:

1. By Being Joyful!
2. By Not Forgetting To Nourish Our Soul!
3. By Keeping **CHRIST** Preeminent In Our Christmas!
4. By Praising The **LORD** During Christmas! (Lips and Life)