• Why is Christmas Such a Big Deal?

Matt. 1:18-25 (ESV) Now the birth of Jesus Christ took place in this way. When his mother Mary had been betrothed to Joseph, before they came together she was found to be with child from the Holy Spirit. And her husband Joseph, being a just man and unwilling to put her to shame, resolved to divorce her quietly. But as he considered these things, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream, saying, “Joseph, son of David, do not fear to take Mary as your wife, for that which is conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. She will bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins.” All this took place to fulfill what the Lord had spoken by the prophet: “Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and they shall call his name Immanuel” (which means, God with us). When Joseph woke from sleep, he did as the angel of the Lord commanded him: he took his wife, but knew her not until she had given birth to a son. And he called his name Jesus.

Why the Big Deal?

1st) It's a Big Deal Because God came to **EARTH**.

Matt. 1:23 (ESV) “Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and they shall call his name Immanuel” (which means, God with us).

Col. 1:15-16 (LB) “Jesus Christ is the exact likeness of the unseen God. He existed before God made anything at all, and in fact, Christ Himself is the Creator who made everything...”

• So who is Jesus...and why will so many people celebrate His birthday?
• Some of the greatest architectural achievements in Europe were built for Him
• Some of the world’s most beautiful art was created in Him
• Some of the world’s most beautiful music was written for Him
• God came to earth

John 1:1 (NIV) In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.

John 1:14 (MSG) The Word became flesh and blood, and moved into the neighborhood.

2nd) It's a Big Deal Because We’re Really **MESSED UP**.

Luke 2:11 (ESV) For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord.

1 John 3:5 (LB) “He became a man so that He could take away our sins...”

• He came to earth because we needed Him
• He Came to earth because the world needed him
Let's look at 4 – Whys

A) Jesus came to earth to show us what **GOD** is like.

- If you want to see what God is like look at Jesus
- Read the Gospels

*John 14:8-9 (MSG)* Philip said, “Master, show us the Father; then we'll be content.” “You've been with me all this time, Philip, and you still don't understand? To see me is to see the Father.

B) Jesus came to earth to show us how to really **LIVE**.

*John 10:10 (NIV)* The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy; I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full.

C) Jesus came to earth is to show us that we can **TRUST** God.

*Psalm 20:7 (NIV)* Some trust in chariots and some in horses, but we trust in the name of the Lord our God.

- You don’t trust somebody you don’t know
- You've got to get to know Jesus first before you can trust Him

D) Jesus came to earth to forgive everything you’ve ever done **WRONG**.

- In the beginning God created everything good
- Man rebelled
- Jesus came to the rescue
- It’s written in the story of our heart

*Romans 5:8 (NIV)* But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us.

3rd) It's a Big Deal Because It's **PERSONAL**.

*Matt. 1:25b (ESV)* And he called his name Jesus.

- You ever feel like that?
- Misfit
- Christmas is personal because it reveals the God who seeks out the lost and the guilty and the fearful and the hurting.
- Friendship with Jesus

*Rom. 5:10 (NLT)* “We were restored to friendship with God by the death of His Son while we were still His enemies,

*What if your only hope is to get the good bench?*