

### MERRY CHRISTMAS!

What are some of your favorite things about Christmas?

- Lots of Snow
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_

What are some of your least favorite things about Christmas?

- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_

What do you believe God wants you to do differently with your Christmas season this year?

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### FOCUSING IN ON THE \_\_\_\_\_

- He pursues
- He values
- He sacrifices
- He provides

### CHRISTMAS \_\_\_\_\_ ABOUT POSSESSING VALUABLES

**Philippians 3:8-12** (NLT) <sup>8</sup>Yes, everything else is worthless when compared with the infinite value of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For his sake I have discarded everything else, counting it all as garbage, so that I could gain Christ <sup>9</sup>and become one with him. I no longer count on my own righteousness through obeying the law; rather, I become righteous through faith in Christ. For God’s way of making us right with himself depends on faith. <sup>10</sup>I want to know Christ and experience the mighty power that raised him from the dead. I want to suffer with him, sharing in his death, <sup>11</sup>so that one way or another I will experience the resurrection from the dead! <sup>12</sup>I don’t mean to say that I have already achieved these things or that I have already reached perfection. But I press on to possess that perfection for which Christ Jesus first possessed me.

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- How do you treat things you *don’t* value? How do you treat things you *do* value?
- What does your relationship with God, yourself, and others reveal about their value to you?

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What something is worth to you determines how much you will pay for it.

### THE CHRISTMAS STORY IS A STORY OF GOD TELLING YOU HOW \_\_\_\_\_ HE VALUES YOU!

**Luke 1:76-79** (NLT) <sup>76</sup>And you, my little son, will be called the prophet of the Most High, because you will prepare the way for the Lord. <sup>77</sup>You will tell his people how to find salvation through forgiveness of their sins. <sup>78</sup>Because of God’s tender mercy, the morning light from heaven is about to break upon us, <sup>79</sup>to give light to those who sit in darkness and in the shadow of death, and to guide us to the path of peace.

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**IN A \_\_\_\_\_ RELATIONSHIP, YOU KNOW HOW MUCH YOU'RE VALUED BY WHAT EXTENT SOMEONE WILL GO TO IN ORDER TO SAVE THE RELATIONSHIP.**

- What have you done to strain your relationship with your God throughout your life?
- What has God done to save your relationship, and what does that tell you about your value?
- What is the most you have sacrificed for someone else, and what did that say about their value to you?

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**WHAT SOMETHING IS WORTH TO YOU DETERMINES HOW MUCH YOU WILL \_\_\_\_\_ FOR IT.**

**Matthew 2:11** (NLT) They entered the house and saw the child with his mother, Mary, and they bowed down and worshiped him. Then they opened their treasure chests and gave him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh.

**Matthew 13:44-46** (NLT) <sup>44</sup>The Kingdom of Heaven is like a treasure that a man discovered hidden in a field. In his excitement, he hid it again and sold everything he owned to get enough money to buy the field. <sup>45</sup>Again, the Kingdom of Heaven is like a merchant on the lookout for choice pearls. When he discovered a pearl of great value, he sold everything he owned and bought it!

**THE HEART OF THE FATHER**

- What makes a parent the happiest? When their kids use TACT in their relationships.

- T \_\_\_\_\_
- A \_\_\_\_\_
- C \_\_\_\_\_
- T \_\_\_\_\_

**THE HEART OF THE FATHER**

1. God wants us to value Him enough that we would revolve our world around Him.
2. God wants us to value ourselves enough that we would see ourselves the way He sees us.
3. God wants us to value others enough that we would help others focus in on His heart.

**PERSONAL APPLICATION:**

- What does the enemy of your soul want you to do with Christmas season this year?
- What does your Heavenly Father, the lover of your soul, want you to do differently with your Christmas season this year?

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**Passages to prepare for next week, The Heart of the Father (Week 2) God Sacrifices for You: Luke 2:8-13; John 3:16-20; Romans 5:6-8; and John 15:12-13**