



Taking Worship Into Your Week

12.6.20

“Good grief!” That was the phrase Charlie Brown used every time he was stressed and frazzled. Sometimes, the way we prepare for Christmas causes us to become frazzled with the result that we might exclaim, “Christmas? Good grief!” So, each Sunday of Advent, we’ll use the beloved cartoon “A Charlie Brown Christmas” as we bring God’s Word to bear on how we can change our preparations into a time of hope and joy.

On this second Sunday of Advent, God’s Word will enable us to understand how we can focus on ways to prepare for a Christmas that lead to a feeling of being loved, and the joy of loving others. Why is Christmas-time a desperately lonely time of the year for so many people? We’ll discover the reason, and God’s solution: A relationship with the One born to save us.

1. Think of a time during Christmas (or another holiday) when you were lonely, or grieving the loss of someone dear to you. How did you deal with, or cope with, your feelings? Looking back on it, could you have done something more healthy (and Godly) than you did?
2. Read Mt. 10:37. How are some ways people turn their family members into “idols?” Read Mt. 10:34-38 to obtain the context, and better understand what Jesus is telling us.
3. Read Mark 3:31-35. What is more important, and vital, than biological family? Look at the rest of Mark chapter 3. Why leads Jesus say this about “family?”
4. Using your concordance, look up the word “family” in the Bible, and try to find an example of a “normal” family. Keep looking. What do the results of your search tell you about the concept of the “perfect” family, and the “ideal” Christmas?
5. Think of people you know who may need to come to a more full understanding of how dangerous loneliness is during this Christmas season; what may God desire you to do/be to help them through this time?