



# CHRISTMAS WITH CLARK!!!!

Christmas Day Services 9:00, 10:30

**Christmas Eve Services** 2:00, 3:30, 5:00



### John 1:14 NIV The Word be

The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us...



# Will you marry me?





# You are being audited by the IRS.





# We need to talk...





# JOY Implications of the Incarnation **JOHN 1:14-18**



# **Implications of** the Incarnation

- That God isn't a million miles away
- That God means to unite heaven and earth
- That this world is worse off than we thought
- That this world can't rescue itself
- That God did something about it











# Personal



John 1:1-3 NIV In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.<sup>2</sup> He was with God in the beginning. <sup>3</sup> Through him all things were made; without him nothing was made that has been made.





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Genesis 2:2-3 NIV By the seventh day God had finished the work he had been doing; so on the seventh day he rested from all his work. <sup>3</sup> Then God blessed the seventh day and made it holy, because on it he rested from all the work of creating that he had done.





#### Genesis 1:27-28a NIV

So God created mankind in his own image, in the image of God he created them; male and female he created them. <sup>28</sup> God blessed them...





#### Revelation 21:2-3 NIV

I saw the Holy City, the new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride beautifully dressed for her husband. <sup>3</sup> And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, "Look! God's dwelling place is now among the people, and he will dwell with them. They will be his people, and God himself will be with them and be their God.





John 1:14 NIV The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us. We have seen his glory, the glory of the one and only Son, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth.



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### John 1:14 NIV The Word be

The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us...



#### John 1:10-11 NIV

He was in the world, and though the world was made through him, the world did not recognize him. <sup>11</sup> He came to that which was his own, but his own did not receive him.





John 19:14-16 NIV It was the day of Preparation of the Passover; it was about noon. "Here is your king," Pilate said to the Jews.<sup>15</sup> But they shouted, "Take him away! Take him away! Crucify him!" "Shall I crucify your king?" Pilate asked. "We have no king but Caesar," the chief priests answered. <sup>16</sup> Finally Pilate handed him over to them to be crucified.







# Implications of the Incarnation

- That God isn't a million miles away
- That this world really matters
- That this world is worse off than we thought
- That this world can't rescue itself
- That God did something about it





"Christmas is the most unsentimental, realistic way of looking at life. It does not say, 'Cheer up! If we all pull together we can make the world a better place.' Christianity does not agree with the optimistic thinkers who say, 'We can fix things if we try hard enough.' Nor does it agree with the pessimists who only see a dystopian future. The message of Christianity is, instead, 'Things really are this bad, and we can't heal or save ourselves. Things really are this dark nevertheless, there is still hope."

- Tim Keller, Hidden Christmas



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# "I didn't want to get involved..."





### John 1:14 NIV The Word be

The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us...



"In the Christian story God comes down; down from the heights of absolute being into time and space, down into humanity; down to the very roots and seabed of the Nature He has created. But He goes down to come up again and bring the whole ruined world up with Him."

- C.S. Lewis, Miracles



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# - Joy in suffering

### **Incarnation & Joy**





### **Incarnation & Joy**

#### - Joy in suffering

- Joy in skepticism





John 1:18 NIV No one has ever seen God, but the one and only Son, who is himself God and is in closest relationship with the Father, has made him known.





### **Incarnation & Joy**

- Joy in suffering
- Joy in skepticism
- Joy in serving





"For the Son of God to empty himself and become poor meant a laying aside of glory; a voluntary restraint of power; an acceptance of hardship, isolation, ill-treatment, malice, and misunderstanding; finally, a death that involved such agony - spiritual even more than physical that his mind nearly broke under the prospect of it. It meant love to the uttermost for unlovely men..."

- J.I Packer, Knowing God



"It is our shame and disgrace today that so many Christians - I will be more specific: so many of the soundest and most orthodox Christians - go through this world in the spirit of the priest and the Levite in our Lord's parable, seeing human needs all around them, but (after a pious wish, and perhaps a prayer, that God might meet those needs) averting their eyes and passing by on the other side. That is not the Christmas spirit."

- J.I Packer, Knowing God



### **Incarnation & Joy**

- Joy in suffering
- Joy in skepticism
- Joy in serving
- Joy in singing





Luke 1:46-47a <sup>NIV</sup> <sup>46</sup> And Mary said: "My soul glorifies the Lord <sup>47</sup> and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior...





Christ by highest heaven adored Christ the everlasting Lord Late in time behold him come Offspring of the virgin's womb Veiled in flesh the Godhead see Hail the incarnate deity Pleased as man with men to dwell Jesus our Immanuel Hark the herald angels sing Glory to the newborn King

