

Study QUESTIONS

Ep. 1157: How Do We Keep Jesus at the Center of Christmas?

<https://christianquestions.com/character/inspiration/1157-christmas/>

See:



1. What is the first gift (which was given to Mary)? (See Luke 1:26-37)
2. How do we respond when something in our lives seems impossible? How is our status similar to Mary's? Is the direct influence of God working in our lives? (See John 14:1-2, 16-17, 1 Peter 2:9-10)
3. What is the second gift (which was given to Joseph)? (See Matthew 1:18-20)
4. Why was this situation untenable for a devout, upstanding Jewish man of that time? What two steps are required to accept responsibility for the things of God? What is the result of this acceptance? How many more times did God instruct Joseph in how to protect Mary and the child Jesus? How did Joseph respond? (See Matthew 1:21-25)
5. Where do we look for guidance in our specific responsibilities in the things of God? What do our responsibilities involve? How is our faith defined? How does this compare to Joseph's circumstances? (See Romans 12:58, 1 Corinthians 12:25-26, James 2:15-17)
6. What is the third gift (which was given to the shepherds)? (See Luke 2:1-15)
7. Who were these shepherds? What were their lives like? How must this experience have impacted their lives? What was the message that they were to share? (See Luke 2:1-14)
8. What was the shepherd's reaction once the angels went away? (See Luke 2:15-20) How do we respond to the gift of seeing God's plan unfold before *us* right now? (See Matthew 13:16-17, Philippians 4:4-7)
9. What is the fourth gift (which was given to Simeon)? (See Luke 2:21-35)
10. Why were Jesus' parents taking him at 8 days old to Jerusalem? What does this show about their lives? What was Simeon's hope? What did Simeon prophesy that this babe would do for the world? How did his prophecy end and why? (See Luke 2:21-35)
11. What can we learn from Simeon? How are our lives similar? What privileges do we have that the prophets and angels did not have? (See 1 Peter 1:10-13)
12. Take a look at your life - are you living a fulfilled life according to the gifts, responsibilities, privileges and opportunities you have been given? What choices can you make so that you are living up to your greatest potential?