

Encounter these verses today:
*circle words that you identify with,
underline phrases or sentences you'd
like to remember, write questions about
the passage out to the side ...*



Matthew 1:18-23 ::

18 This is how the birth of Jesus the Messiah came about: His mother Mary was pledged to be married to Joseph, but before they came together, she was found to be pregnant through the Holy Spirit. 19 Because Joseph her husband was faithful to the law, and yet did not want to expose her to public disgrace, he had in mind to divorce her quietly.

20 But after he had considered this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, "Joseph son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary home as your wife, because what is conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. 21 She will give birth to a son, and you are to give him the name Jesus, because he will save his people from their sins."

22 All this took place to fulfill what the Lord had said through the prophet: 23 "The virgin will conceive and give birth to a son, and they will call him Immanuel" (which means "God with us").

John 13:34-35 ::

34 "A new command I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another. 35 By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another."

illuminate

Welcoming the Light of the World!

December 18 2011 | Pastor Joel Heald

The Light lives _____

and _____ **us.**

How do you think that Joseph and Mary felt in public before Jesus was born?

What does it mean that Jesus was the "second Adam"?

What does it mean for you to love others in the way that Jesus has loved you?



Download this sermon & outline at www.flushingcommunity.org

Digging Deeper

[Engaging the message throughout the week]

Monday: 12.19.2011

Prayer Focus: The Flushing Community

Passage: 1 Peter 2:9-10

Insight: *Have you ever felt wanted? Chosen? Given an opportunity that you didn't really deserve? That's what I see in this passage. God has called us to be his children and with that enjoy an inheritance that is and will be amazing. But we can't embrace what God has for us living in the darkness - he has called us into His wonderful light!*

Questions for consideration:

*Think back to a time when you felt God's love tangibly in your life.
Could you feel God's light shining on you?*

Tuesday: 12.20.2011

Prayer Focus: FCC Church Leadership

Passage: Zechariah 9:9-17

Insight: *Our Tuesdays for this series will focus on Old Testament prophesy about Jesus. This passage from the prophet Zechariah strikes imagery that we normally think of at Easter with Jesus riding into Jerusalem on a donkey. But it also speaks of his purpose to come and restore his people.*

Questions for consideration:

*What part of celebrating Christmas helps you praise the Lord?
How can the coming of Christ help you feel set free?*

Wednesday: 12.21.2011

Prayer Focus: Upward Basketball & Cheer

Passage: Luke 2:1-20

Insight: *Christmas is very close ... just a few days away. As we read the story again of the nativity, let's be reminded that none of this happened by accident. The census, the trip to Bethlehem, the shepherds ... all of this happened just as the Lord God wanted it to. No mistakes. No miscalculations.*

Questions for consideration:

*Do you ever give in to the idea that unscheduled trips is actually life working against you?
What if we could see every experience this day (the good, the bad, the ugly) as part of God's plan for us?
How can you discover the peace of this crazy, rushed season?*

Thursday: 12.22.2011

Prayer Focus: May God Reveal His Light to You

Passage: Psalm 31:1-8

Insight: *Thursdays will be a day to read from the book of Psalms. Today is a Psalm of refuge. Do you need to feel the security of Jesus this week? Has live got you by the neck and squeezing? Allow this Psalm to take you to a place that is focused on the Lord's goodness and protection in your life. Cry out for mercy. Put your trust in Him.*

Questions for consideration:

*Can it help you navigate this week knowing that God has seen your "affliction"?
What does it mean to be redeemed (v.5) in your words?*

Friday: 12.23.2011

Prayer Focus: Our church worship services (12/24 & 12/25))

Passage: Isaiah 45:5-8

Insight: *Here the Lord acknowledges that He has created both the light and the darkness. Throughout this series, we've made the darkness to be a bad thing ... but if God made it, and if he gave it purpose, can it really be bad?*

Questions for consideration:

*What do we do, as Believers, with the understanding that God brings poverty and prosperity? Life and death?
Does this passage change your position on what you are going through right now in life?*



If you are interested in joining our iPray Team that will be interceding our concerns for the church, our community and nation, send Pastor Terry an email or fill out the "Get Involved" insert this morning!