



### Prepare the Way

*"He will turn many of the children of Israel to the Lord their God, and he will go before him in the spirit and power of Elijah, to turn the hearts of the fathers to the children, and the disobedient to the wisdom of the just, to make ready for the Lord a people prepared."* (Luke 1:16–17)

What John the Baptist did for Israel, Advent can do for us. Don't let Christmas find you unprepared. I mean *spiritually* unprepared. Its joy and impact will be so much greater if you are ready! So, that you might be *prepared* . . .

First, meditate on the fact that we need a *Savior*. Christmas is an indictment before it becomes a delight. "Unto you is born this day in the city of David a *Savior*, who is Christ the Lord" (Luke 2:11). If you don't need a Savior, you don't need Christmas. Christmas will not have its intended effect until we feel desperately the need for a Savior. Let these short Advent meditations help awaken in you a bittersweet sense of need for the Savior.

Second, engage in sober self-examination. Advent is to Christmas what Lent is to Easter. "Search me, O God, and know my heart! Try me and know my thoughts! And see if there be any grievous way in me, and lead me in the way everlasting!" (Psalm 139:23–24). Let every heart *prepare him room* . . . by cleaning house.

Third, build God-centered anticipation and expectancy and excitement into your home — especially for the children. If you are excited about Christ, they will be too. If you can only make Christmas exciting with material things, how will the children get a thirst for God? Bend the efforts of your imagination to make the wonder of the King's arrival visible for the children.

Fourth, be much in the Scriptures, and memorize the great passages! "Is not my word like fire, declares the Lord" (Jeremiah 23:29)! Gather 'round that fire this Advent season. It is warm. It is sparkling with colors of grace. It is healing for a thousand hurts. It is light for dark nights. (JP)

**Check Out Our New Website:** [mgfellowship.org](http://mgfellowship.org)

**Christmas Candlelight Service:** This Sunday, December 21, we will celebrate the birth of our Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ, as the Light and Life of the World. Our Candlelight service will be at our regular morning service at 10:00 a.m...

**Theology 101 – From the Mind to the Heart:** Our next class will be Saturday, January 3<sup>rd</sup> 2026 at 9:00 a.m...

**Wednesday Bible Study:** Tonight, we will look at how to biblically deal with those who accuse us – both rightly and wrongly – with gutsy guilt. Hope to see you at 6:30 p.m...

**Sunday's Service: Guest Speaker Alex Cripchuck** "What is God Doing in Your Life?"

**This Sunday's Christmas Message:** "The Glorious Rejection"

**Great Quote** “If created things are seen and handled as gifts of God and as mirrors of His glory, they need not be occasions of idolatry – if our delight in them is always also a delight in their Maker.” (John Piper)

## **One Solitary Life**

Here is a man who was born in an obscure village, the child of a peasant woman. He grew up in still another obscure village. He worked in a carpenter shop until he was 30 and then for 3 years he became an itinerant preacher.

Now, he never wrote a book, he never held an office, he never went to college. He never owned his own home or had a family. He never stepped foot inside a big city, he never traveled more than 200 miles from the place that he was born. He never did one of those things that we usually accompany with greatness. He had no credentials but himself.

He was still a young man when the tide of popular opinion turned against him. His friends ran away, one denied him. He was turned over to his enemies. He was hung upon a cross between two thieves. While he was dying, his executioners gambled over the only piece of property that he had on this earth, and that was his coat. When he was dead he was taken down and laid in a borrowed grave through the courtesy of a friend.

Twenty-One wide centuries have come and gone; and today he is still the centerpiece of the human race and the leader of the column of progress. I am far within the mark when I say that: All the armies that have ever marched, all the navies that were ever built, all the parliaments that have ever sat, and all the kings that have ever reigned, put together could not have affected the life of humanity upon this earth as much as this – One Solitary Life – The life of Jesus Christ!

## **Prayer Needs:**

- Please pray for this Sunday’s Christmas Candlelight Service. Pray that God would draw to Himself those who will hear the Gospel of the Lord, Jesus Christ – the Light of the World!
- Please pray for those who are on the fence with their relationship with the Lord.
- Please pray those who’s families have been ravaged by sin and brokenness, that this Christmas God would bring healing and restoration.

If you have any prayer needs (or praise reports), please let me know by email or text: Pastor Mike, 909-229-1888 or [yea4god@gmail.com](mailto:yea4god@gmail.com)

Church Mailing Address: 3123 Harrison Street, Riverside, 92503

Church Meeting Place: 2260 Griffin Way, Corona 92879 (At the Ayres Hotel)

Prayer: 9:00 a.m.

**Service Time: 10:00 a.m. Candlelight Service!**

For His Glory!

Pastor Mike

*"God magnifies his greatness by making himself the supreme treasure of our hearts, even at great cost to himself (Rom 8:32), and so serving us in the very act of exalting his glory."*

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12-14-25

Mike Yeamans  
Proverbs 3:5-6

*"Nothing but God exists for its own sake"*

*"God magnifies his greatness by making himself the supreme treasure of our hearts, even at great cost to himself (Rom 8:32), and so serving us in the very act of exalting his glory." (John Piper)*