Epiphany: Jesus is Coming

Matt Newman | Ryan Ceola

Live as One

From the time of Abraham till Jesus came, the people of Israel waited over 2,000 years for the Messiah. Jesus came as that Messiah, but He wasn't what they wanted or expected. From their traditions they expected God to establish His Kingdom at once. The Jesus who walked among them didn't match up to their preconceived notions. They were looking for a mighty warrior, not a man who humbly served others.

How have your preconceived notions prevented you from seeing Jesus as He really is? In what way have these views of Jesus prevented you from obeying and following Jesus faithfully?

Live by the Word

Read Luke 19:11-27. There are three important points represented here:
(1) There would be a time delay between Christ's ministry and His return. We are to use this time in service to God.
(2) The faithful servant will be rewarded, and the servant who does nothing with His relationship with Jesus will be judged. (3) Those who reject Jesus will be considered His enemy and separated from Him for eternity.

Take the time to examine your heart. Do you remember a time when you made the decision to follow Jesus as Lord and Savior? Share it with your group.

If you aren't sure that you made the decision to follow Jesus as Lord and Savior, tell someone in your community group. The Word is clear that our eternity with God is based upon our relationship with Jesus. Those who reject Him will be separated from God forever.

Live as SENT

What talents has God given you that you could use in service to Him?

Have you used these talents to serve God faithfully?

If you have not made good use of your talents and time in service to God, what has prevented you from doing so? What can you do to change that? What would it look like if we as the body of Christ served God in such a way that others would know we are Christians?

Daily, prayerfully read the prayer on page 49 of the Clarity book. Let paragraph two have special meaning for you. Seek daily to let your life reflect the love of Christ in service to those around you.

What is a specific, good next step you would like to share with the group to ask about in your next gathering?

Connect DAILY

Sunday Luke 19:11-27

Monday Matthew 21:28-22:14;

Psalm 38:16-22; Proverbs 6:14-16

Tuesday Matthew 22:15-46;

Psalm 39; Proverbs 6:17-19

Wednesday Matthew 23:1-39;

Psalm 40:1-7; Proverbs 6:20-23

Thursday Matthew 24:1-14;

Psalm 40:8-17; Proverbs 6:24-27

Friday Matthew 24:15-35;

Psalm 41:1-5; Proverbs 6:28-30

Saturday Matthew 24:36-25:13;

Psalm 41:6-13; Proverbs 6:31-33