

Road Blocks

<https://vimeo.com/248677311>

O Come Let Us Adore Him!

Last week:

400 years of silence between the OT and NT

Herod - Who is Lord?

When the silence is broken and we are faced with the reality that we cannot both be lord and serve the Lord it DEMANDS reconciliation

Magi - Seek and keep seeking until you find Him, worship Him

Shepherds - Ordinary people presented with the extraordinary - can't not tell people

O Come Let Us Adore Him

Sometimes things get in the way of us seeking God or as we seek Him

-If you're here I assume you are at least curious about God, and Truth

1. Comparison

Video of the guy pretending to be someone famous

We easily lump people into groups

-haves, have nots

-loved, reviled

-popular, unpopular

-beautiful, ugly

Very easily these can lead us right into a comparison trap

Which tend to confirm within us that which our selfishness desires: whether positive or negative

ex: I've arrived, I'll never belong

You either feel proud or you feel gypped

What it prevents is the ability to see what you truly are.

2 Corinthians 10:12

...but when they measure themselves by one another and compare themselves with one another, they are without understanding.

2. Failure

Joseph- no room in the Inn

Romans 3:23- for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God

3. Pride

Like king Herod we are unable to accept God as Lord because it means we are not

Psalm 10:2-4

In arrogance the wicked hotly pursue the poor; let them be caught in the schemes that they have devised. For the wicked boasts of the desires of his soul, and the one greedy for gain curses and renounces the LORD. In the pride of his face the wicked does not seek him; all his thoughts are, "There is no God."

The ~~Royal~~ Humble Family

Matthew 1:18-25 (Joseph)

-Desmond Tutu

“You don’t choose your family. They are God’s gift to you, as you are to them.”

-BUT in this case... God did choose his family

Why Mary? Why Joseph?

Luke 1:26-45 (Mary)

Mary’s response to God

v38 “Behold, I am the servant of the Lord; let it be to me according to your word.”

Luke 1:46-55 Mary’s Song of Praise (notice her humility)

Millions have idolized Mary...

For being chosen

For her response

For her obedience

For her reliance

For her part in carrying God within her

For her part in God sharing himself with us

For her part in advancing the Kingdom

What many fail to realize is that we each have been chosen for a mission of great significance too.

To allow the Lord to live in us and work through us

v48 “For behold, from now on all generations will call me blessed”

-You too

Matthew 5:2-11

Luke 1:45 “and blessed is she who believed...”

Why choose me? Why use me?

1 Corinthians 1:26-31

Too Good to be True

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Irony- we marvel at the trip the magi took to worship Jesus

Jesus crossed the chasm between the infinite and finite because of the Father's love for us

“Jesus left the Father and stepped into the cold, harsh and painful physical world. Bottling up His supernatural power which had caused all things to be with just a breath and subjecting Himself to the vulnerability of infancy.”

Unfair- I think we've all been in a position where things weren't fair

Nothing more unfair than what Jesus was stepping into

Because of mankind's sin: death, hatred, fear, pain, toil, sickness & disease

How did he come?

Philippians 2:3-8 (Character of Christ)

The humility of Christ to come in flesh in obedience to the Father

Why did he come?

2 Corinthians 5:14-21

Too good to be true?

John 3:16-18 (MSG)

“This is how much God loved the world: He gave his Son, his one and only Son. And this is why: so that no one need be destroyed; by believing in him, anyone can have a whole and lasting life. God didn't go to all the trouble of sending his Son merely to point an accusing finger, telling the world how bad it was. He came to help, to put the world right again. Anyone who trusts in him is acquitted; anyone who refuses to trust him has long since been under the death sentence without knowing it. And why? Because of that person's failure to believe in the one-of-a-kind Son of God when introduced to him.

The magi went back “another way”

They came seeking, wondering if it may be true, they left believing

What about you?

Simple prayer: “Jesus, I give you my life”