OPENING DISCUSSION

Do you plan for Christmas? If so, what does your Christmas plan look like?



SERMON

How did God plan for the first Christmas?

What was Jesus' purpose in coming to earth? Why is this purpose so important?

Why is it significant that God was so specific about the way in which the Messiah was to come into the world? Why is it significant that Jesus fulfilled all of those prophecies?

Why is Jesus being born in the line of David so important?

What was the state of the world when Jesus came? How is the world today?

APPLICATION

How does it feel that Jesus is the Savior of the world, which includes you?

When planning for Christmas, how will you make sure there is room for Jesus?

How does reading and understanding the prophecies regarding Jesus increase our trust in God and His Word? How do the prophecies reveal the deeper meaning of Christmas?

Why does the world now need a Savior as much as it ever has? How will you help tell the world that Jesus is the reason for the season?

God planned for the first Christmas. He is also planning for Jesus' return. How will you make sure you are ready?

Not a part of a Life Group at North Hills? Visit the church website and check out the different groups currently meeting. When you see one that interests you, click on the link provided and know that everyone will be glad you came!

https://church.north-hills.org/connect/small-group-ministry

North Hills Church

- 12/12/21 -



Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign. Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and shall call his name Immanuel. *Isaiah* 7:14 (ESV)

But you, O Bethlehem Ephrathah, who are too little to be among the clans of Judah, from you shall come forth for me one who is to be ruler in Israel, whose coming forth is from of old, from ancient days. *Micah* 5:2 (ESV)

I see him, but not now; I behold him, but not near: a star shall come out of Jacob, and a scepter shall rise out of Israel; it shall crush the forehead of Moab and break down all the sons of Sheth. *Numbers 24:17 (ESV)*

Behold, the days are coming, declares the Lord, when I will raise up for David a righteous Branch, and he shall reign as king and deal wisely, and shall execute justice and righteousness in the land. In his days Judah will be saved, and Israel will dwell securely. And this is the name by which he will be called: "The Lord is our righteousness."

Jeremiah 23:5-6 (ESV)

There shall come forth a shoot from the stump of Jesse, and a branch from his roots shall bear fruit. *Isaiah 11:1 (ESV)*

North Hills Church

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2021-2022 Sermon Series: Authentic

Family Traditions: Decorating for Christmas

Genesis 3:15; Isaiah 7:14; Micah 5:2; Numbers 24:17; Jeremiah 23:5-6; Isaiah 11:1

AUTHENTIC PRINCIPLE:	
God started	for Christmas well in
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1. God prepared Jesus'	·
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3. God prepared Jesus'	·
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Response:	
Are you ready to	
	?

Read the entire Bible chronologically in a year

See the church newsletter for this week's Bible reading passages (https://church.north-hills.org/newsletters/weekly-newsletter)



Today after service

There will be a special business meeting today after service in the Worship Center. At the meeting, information will be shared about an upcoming transition at North Hills. While all are welcome to attend, only church members can vote on the matter that will be shared.

Lottie Moon Christmas Offering

The Lottie Moon Christmas Offering is an annual offering collected by Southern Baptists to support international missions. The offering was officially named in 1918 by Woman's Missionary Union in honor of the missionary to China who urged churches to start it and give sacrificially. Lottie was appointed to China as a missionary at age 33 and served there 39 years. She wore Chinese clothes and lived like her Chinese neighbors. Lottie had several nicknames in China—foreign devil, foreign lady teacher, heavenly book visitor, and the cookie maker (Lottie baked cookies to win the hearts of the children and families who were frightened of her). In 1912, famine, flood, and war encircled her China. Her friends were starving. In a final act of empathy, Lottie stopped eating and gave all her food away. When her friends realized the depth of her sickness, they put her on a boat to return to the United States. Lottie died on Christmas Eve while en route to the U.S. (see www.wmu.com for more information).

North Hills has set a goal to raise \$12,000 for international missions. If you would like to make a contribution, please see the information below. When using an offering envelope, note it on your giving; for online gifts, select "Lottie Moon" in the dropdown menu. *Thanks!*

Outdoor Children's Ministry on Sunday mornings

Parents and guardians, we ask that you go to the **main entrance** of the Worship Center to check your child in. After service, please go to the Preschool Playground in a timely fashion to check your child out. While our Sunday morning Children's Worship is designed for children, it is not mandatory children attend. Parents and guardians are welcome to keep their children with them in the Worship Center if they prefer.

Communication Cards and Offering Envelopes

At the **main entrance** and **senior parking lot entrance** of the Worship Center, you will find special new boxes when you leave today. If you have filled out a Communication Card or Offering Envelope, please insert them into either of the boxes (please note the boxes will remain out for 15 minutes after the service). For those who prefer to contribute online, simply go to north-hills.org and click on Support NH or text GIVE to (707) 289-7600.