

12/6/2020

## The Why of Christmas

*For the Son of Man came to seek and save those who are lost.  
—Luke 19:10*

All around us are reminders that Christmas is here. Frankly, it seems to get earlier every year. I think I maybe even saw Christmas decorations for sale in August.

Even so, I love to hear those great Christian Christmas songs being played wherever I go. Suddenly I'm hearing the name of Jesus in public, and there's something very special about that.

This month we talk a lot about the where and the what surrounding Jesus' birth. But I want to focus for a moment on the why. Jesus was born in a stable in Bethlehem to save us from our sins.

In fact, Jesus revealed to a man named Zacchaeus the reason He came to this earth. When Jesus showed up in Jericho, it was a big deal. Zacchaeus couldn't see above the crowd, but no one wanted anything to do with him because he was a tax collector. That means he took advantage of people. He effectively ripped them off. Therefore, he didn't have a friend in town.

So Zacchaeus climbed a tree to get a view of Jesus. Imagine his shock when Jesus stopped, looked up, and called him by name. Jesus said, "Quick, come down! I must be a guest in your home today" (Luke 19:5 NLT).

After all, how can you reach a sinner if you don't spend some time with him? That day Zacchaeus walked into his home a sinner, and he walked out a saint. And that is what spending time with Jesus will do.

There in the home of Zacchaeus, Jesus revealed the reason He came. He said, "Salvation has come to this home today. . . . For the Son of Man came to seek and save those who are lost" (verses 9–10 NLT).

That's why Jesus came—to seek and save lost people.

## Prayer Requests

- Shane's mother, Donna, passed way yesterday.
- Amy Reinbold is recovering from surgery and preparing for another
- Sharon Griffiths is planning on surgery December 17
- Mary LaFrenz would like prayers for health concerns.
- All of the people affected by COVID-19

## Announcements

### Birthdays

Bristol Mowers	12/10	Shayla Goracke	12/15
Sharon Griffiths	12/17	Amy Reinbold	12/21
Ruger Sanderson	12/21	Graceon Stillahn	12/21

### Anniversary

If your birthday or anniversary has been inadvertently left off these lists or is incorrect, please let Shannon know so it can be added.

## Those Serving

### Today

Opening & Songs	Chris	Greeter:	Shane
Opening Prayer	Pete	Offering	Jay
Scripture Reader	Jaydon	Fruit	Jonathan
Closing Prayer	Gary	Bread	Tom

### Nest Week

Opening & Songs	Shane	Greeter:	Shane
Opening Prayer	Tom	Offering	Jonathan
Scripture Reader	Gary	Fruit	Jaydon
Closing Prayer	Pete	Bread	Jonathan