MARINERS CHURCH





Santa Baby

What do I really want for Christmas? 12/10/23

What Jesus offers is WAY better than anything else this world can offer.

"...the deceitfulness of riches..." -Jesus, Mark 19

I said to myself, "Come on, let's try pleasure. Let's look for the 'good things' in life. I tried to find meaning by building huge homes for myself and by planting beautiful vineyards. I made gardens and parks, filling them with all kinds of fruit trees. I built reservoirs to collect the water to irrigate my many flourishing groves. I bought slaves, both men and women, and others were born into my household. I also owned large herds and flocks, more than any of the kings who had lived in Jerusalem before me. I collected great sums of silver and gold, the treasure of many kings and provinces. I hired wonderful singers, both men and women, and had many beautiful concubines. I had everything a man could desire! Anything I wanted, I would take. I denied myself no pleasure. But as I looked at everything I had worked so hard to accomplish, it was all so meaningless—like chasing the wind. Ecclesiastes 2

About that time some wise men from eastern lands arrived in Jerusalem, asking,

"Where is the newborn king of the Jews? We saw his star as it rose, and we have come to worship him." Matthew 2:1-2

After this the wise men went their way. And the star they had seen in the east guided them to Bethlehem. It went ahead of them and stopped over the place where the child was. Matthew 2:9

They entered the house and saw the child with his mother, Mary, and they bowed down and worshiped him. Matthew 2:11

RE-DISCOVER THE PHENOMENAL THING GOD GIVES ME IN JESUS.

I am loved when I'm at my worst.

But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us. Romans 5:8

I am not condemned.

Who then is the one who condemns? No one. Christ Jesus who died more than that, who was raised to life—is at the right hand of God and is also interceding for us. Romans 8:34

I have peace with God.

We have peace with God because of what Jesus Christ our Lord has done for us. Romans 5:1

God wants me.

God decided in advance to adopt us into his own family by bringing us to himself through Jesus Christ. This is what he wanted to do, and it gave him great pleasure. Ephesians 1:5

I have God at work in my life.

For we are God's masterpiece. He has created us anew in Christ Jesus, so we can do the good things he planned for us long ago. Ephesians 2:10

I can make it.

I can do all things through Christ who gives me strength. Philippians 4:13

"You have made us for yourself, O Lord, and our heart is restless until it rests in you." -Augustine

If you'd like to grow in your faith and connect with others, LifeGroups are a great place for you. For more information, email <u>emma@marinerscc.org</u>

If you'd like to talk to someone about beginning or renewing your relationship with God, stop by the Connection Center after any service.

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