

## ***DON'T CANCEL CHRISTMAS***

**Luke 2:8-20**

There's a shortage of **JOY** in our world. For many people, "the most **WONDERFUL** time of the year" may be the **WORST** time of the year.

*I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people.*

Luke 2:10

### **< HOW TO EXPERIENCE THE JOY OF CHRISTMAS >**

#### **1. OPEN OUR EYES: \_\_\_\_\_ the \_\_\_\_\_ of Christmas!**

**Luke 2:8-9** *And there were shepherds living out in the fields nearby, keeping watch over their flocks at night. An angel of the Lord appeared to them and the glory of the Lord shone around them.*

John 1:14 *The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us. We have seen his glory, the glory of the One and Only, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth.*

2 Corinthians 4:6 *For God...made his light shine in our hearts to give us...the glory of God in the face of Christ.*

#### **2. OPEN OUR EARS: \_\_\_\_\_ the \_\_\_\_\_ of Christmas!**

**Luke 2:10-11** *The angel said to them, "Do not be afraid. I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people. Today in the city of David a Savior has been born to you. He is Christ the Lord."*

Matthew 13:16-17 *Blessed are your ears because they hear. For I tell you the truth, many prophets and righteous men longed to see what you see but did not see it, and to hear what you hear but did not hear it.*

Hebrews 2:1,3 *We must pay more careful attention to what we have heard so that we do not drift away...how shall we escape if we ignore such a great salvation?*

#### **3. OPEN OUR HEART: \_\_\_\_\_ the \_\_\_\_\_ of Christmas!**

**Luke 2:13-14** *Suddenly a great company of the heavenly host appeared with the angel, praising God and saying, "Glory to God in the highest."*

1 Peter 2:9 *You are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people belonging to God, that you may declare the praises of him who called you out of darkness into his wonderful light.*

Hebrews 13:15 *Through Jesus, therefore, let us continually offer to God a sacrifice of praise--the fruit of lips that confess his name. And do not forget to do good and to share with others, for with such sacrifices God is pleased.*

#### **4. OPEN OUR MOUTH: \_\_\_\_\_ the \_\_\_\_\_ of Christmas!**

**Luke 2:15-17** *When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, "Let's go to Bethlehem and see this thing that has happened, which the Lord has told us about." So they hurried off and found Mary and Joseph, and the baby who was lying in the manger. When they had seen Him, they spread the word concerning what had been told them about this child.*

John 15:27 *You must testify...for you have been with me.*

#### **5. OPEN OUR LIFE: \_\_\_\_\_ the \_\_\_\_\_ of Christmas!**

**Luke 2:20** *The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all the things they had heard and seen.*

John 1:11-13 *He came to that which was his own, but his own did not receive him. Yet to all who received him, to those who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God — children born not of natural descent...but born of God.*

#### ***Are you ready to experience the JOY of Christmas?***

- Open your **EYES** to **SEE** the **GLORY** of Christmas
- Open your **EARS** to **HEAR** the **MESSAGE** of Christmas
- Open your **HEART** to **EXPERIENCE** the **WORSHIP** of Christmas
- Open your **MOUTH** to **SHARE** the **MEANING** of Christmas
- Open your **LIFE** to **WELCOME** the **CHRIST** of Christmas