

Sunday, December 18, 2022

Advent Series: "Jesus Christ the Lord Changes Everything"



4th Sunday of Advent

"Jesus Changes My Focus"
Isaiah 7:10-16 and Romans 1:1-7

What typically causes you stress at Christmas? How do you deal with the stress?

This last Sunday of Advent we explore another word of emotion, "love." We think of love in sentimental terms. We imagine our perfect love, and yet too often our thoughts and emotions do not match our reality. Love is so much more than an emotion, and at Christmas we are confronted with the full range of what love is, and how it can change us.

God's love changes my _____.

Read *Isaiah 7:10-14*.

King Ahaz was confident and secure in his own abilities and needs and saw no reason to invite God into his reality. In what ways are we like Ahaz?

The name God reveals himself to Ahaz with is, "Immanuel, God with us" How has this name, can this name of God be an encouragement to you this season?

Read *1 John 3:1*- How is this description of God's love different than what I may have experienced in my life? How can this be an encouragement?

God's love changes my _____.

Read Matthew *1:18-25*. Joseph and Mary have their lives upended by God's intervention. How would I have responded? What can I learn from them?

Read *Luke 1:46,47*. How can I glorify God right now in the chapter of life I am in?

God's love changes _____.

Read Romans *1:16-18*. Paul gives clues as to the change God's love makes in someone's life. What descriptive words does he use? How do these words define me?

Jesus changes my focus from what I expect from God, how I live for God and how I am seen by God.

Whose focus can I help change this week?

Next Week: Christmas Day ~ "Jesus Never Changes"