

# REDISCOVER THE JOURNEY

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## IN THE "REDISCOVER CHRISTMAS" SERIES:

November 30: *Rediscover Wonder*

December 7: *Rediscover the Unexpected*

December 13/14: *Rediscover Worship*

December 21: *Rediscover the Journey*

Christmas Eve: *Rediscover the Hope*

### Four Truths:

#### 1) Life is a \_\_\_\_\_.

**Luke 2:1–7 (NLT)** (1) At that time the Roman emperor, Augustus, decreed that a census should be taken throughout the Roman Empire. (2) (This was the first census taken when Quirinius was governor of Syria.) (3) All returned to their own ancestral towns to register for this census. (4) And because Joseph was a descendant of King David, he had to go to Bethlehem in Judea, David's ancient home. He traveled there from the village of Nazareth in Galilee. (5) He took with him Mary, to whom he was engaged, who was now expecting a child. (6) And while they were there, the time came for her baby to be born. (7) She gave birth to her firstborn son. She wrapped him snugly in strips of cloth and laid him in a manger, because there was no lodging available for them.

**IT IS A GOOD THING FOR US TO REMEMBER THAT LIFE IS A JOURNEY AND NOT JUST A MOMENT IN TIME OR OUR CURRENT REALITY.**

#### 2) The Journey is often filled with \_\_\_\_\_.

**UNEXPECTED CIRCUMSTANCES AND EVENTS ARE A NORMAL PART OF LIFE'S JOURNEY. NOBODY GETS THROUGH LIFE WITHOUT FACING THINGS THEY DIDN'T PLAN FOR OR THINGS THEY DIDN'T EXPECT OR WANT.**

**Matthew 2:13–15a (NLT)** (13) After the wise men were gone, an angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream. "Get up! Flee to Egypt with the child and his mother," the angel said. "Stay there until I tell you to return, because Herod is going to search for the child to kill him." (14) That night Joseph left for Egypt with the child and Mary, his mother, (15) and they stayed there until Herod's death.

#### 3) God wants to use your journey to help \_\_\_\_\_ He wants you to become.

**Romans 8:28–29 (NLT)** (28) And we know that God causes everything to work together for the good of those who love God and are called according to his purpose for them. (29) For God knew his people in advance, and he chose them to become like his Son, so that his Son would be the firstborn among many brothers and sisters.

**DON'T WASTE WHAT IS HAPPENING IN YOUR JOURNEY RIGHT NOW BY JUST WISHING YOU WERE PAST IT.**

4) \_\_\_\_\_ is the key to walking through life's unexpected circumstances and events.

**Matthew 1:24 (NLT)** (24) When Joseph woke up, he did as the angel of the Lord commanded and took Mary as his wife.

**Luke 1:38 (NLT)** (38) Mary responded, "I am the Lord's servant. May everything you have said about me come true."

**Proverbs 3:5-6 (NLT)** (5) Trust in the LORD with all your heart; do not depend on your own understanding. (6) Seek his will in all you do, and he will show you which path to take.

### **Five Practical Suggestions:**

1) Remember and think about \_\_\_\_\_.

2) Regularly \_\_\_\_\_.

**Psalms 119:105 (NLT)** (105) Your word is a lamp to guide my feet and a light for my path.

**YOU CAN'T TRUST SOMEONE YOU DON'T KNOW!**

3) \_\_\_\_\_.

**1 Thessalonians 5:17 (NLT)** (17) Never stop praying.

4) Take \_\_\_\_\_.

**GOD SELDOM SHOWS US THE ENTIRE JOURNEY.**

5) Remember that \_\_\_\_\_.

**Deuteronomy 31:6 (NLT)** (6) So be strong and courageous! Do not be afraid and do not panic before them. For the LORD your God will personally go ahead of you. He will neither fail you nor abandon you."

**Isaiah 41:10 (NLT)** (10) Don't be afraid, for I am with you. Don't be discouraged, for I am your God. I will strengthen you and help you. I will hold you up with my victorious right hand.

**Psalms 23:4 (NLT)** (4) Even when I walk through the darkest valley, I will not be afraid, for you are close beside me. Your rod and your staff protect and comfort me.

**YOUR CIRCUMSTANCES DO NOT DEFINE YOU. BUT YOUR RESPONSE TO THOSE CIRCUMSTANCES AND YOUR WILLINGNESS TO TRUST GOD THROUGH THEM WILL DETERMINE WHO YOU BECOME.**

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*For more information about what it means to begin a relationship with Jesus or what to do after making a decision to follow Him, stop at Guest Central in the lobby following the service, email us at [info@otterbeinchurch.org](mailto:info@otterbeinchurch.org), or call the church office at 717.762.7147 to set up an appointment. You may also learn more about what it means to follow Jesus and/or request materials and find additional information to help you on your spiritual journey by clicking "**Next Steps > Jesus**" on*