

To My Victory Baptist Church Family,

This coming Sunday morning, I will begin our 2018 Christmas series. This series has been developed around a song called, "A Strange Way to Save the World," recorded by a group called 4Him. I'm sure you've heard it. Here's how the song goes:

"I'm sure He must have been surprised at where this road had taken Him 'cause never in a million lives would He have dreamed of Bethlehem. And standing at the manger He saw with His own eyes the message from the angel come to life. And Joseph said...

'Why me, I'm just a simple man of trade? Why Him with all the rulers in the world?
Why here, inside this stable filled with hay? Why her, she's just an ordinary girl?

Now I'm not one to second guess what angels have to say,
But this is such a strange way to save the world.

To think of how it could have been, If Jesus had come as He deserved
There would have been no Bethlehem, No lowly shepherds at His birth.'

But Joseph knew the reason love had to reach so far,
And as he held the Savior in his arms, he must have thought,

'Why me, I'm just a simple man of trade? Why Him with all the rulers in the world?
Why here, inside this stable filled with hay? Why her, she's just an ordinary girl?

Now I'm not one to second guess what angels have to say, But this is such a strange way to save the world.'"

During the course of this song, there are a number of questions that the songwriter asks. This coming weekend, I want to begin by asking the question, "Why did God become a man?"

Have you ever really thought about this question? Perhaps the greatest miracle, the greatest event in human history is the fact that there was a time that the Creator became a Creature. The infinite God took upon Himself finite human flesh.

The story is told about a time long ago, when there was a wise and good king who ruled in Persia. He loved his people. He wanted to know how they lived. He wanted to know about their hardships. Often he dressed in the clothes of a working man or a beggar, and went to the homes of the poor. No one whom he visited thought that he was their ruler.

One time he visited a very poor man who lived in a cellar. He ate the coarse food the poor man ate. He spoke cheerful, kind words to him. Then he left. Later he visited the poor man again and disclosed his identity by saying, "I am your king!" The king thought the man would surely ask for some gift or favor, but he didn't. Instead he said, "You left your palace and your glory to visit me in this dark, dreary place. You ate the course food I ate. You brought gladness to my heart! To others you have given your rich gifts. To me you have given yourself!"

There is no greater gift in all the world than the gift of the Lord Jesus Christ. God became man in order that you could have eternal life and so that you can know the forgiveness of your sin. The story of Christmas is all about the fact that God became man and gave Himself to you and me.

The Apostle Paul describes it pretty well when he wrote these familiar words in 2 Corinthians 9:15, ***“Thanks be to God for His indescribable gift!”***

The Bible tells us that salvation is a gift, and that gift is available to all who will receive it. In John 4:10, Jesus said to the woman at the well, ***“If you knew the gift of God, and who it is who says to you, ‘Give me a drink,’ you would have asked Him, and He would have given you living water.”***

Romans 6:23 teaches us, ***“For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.”***

And the Bible says in Ephesians 2:8, ***“For by grace you have been saved through faith; and that not of yourselves, it is the gift of God...”***

Thank God for the indescribable gift of eternal life that began (at least from an earthly perspective) when God became a man. That's what we are going to be looking at this coming Sunday morning. We will begin our time together this Sunday by baptizing two people. You won't want to miss it. I hope you can join us.

Attached, please find a list of some of the other events and happenings in and around the Victory Baptist Church family that hopefully will be an encouragement to you and your family:

Sunday, December 2, 2018

8:00 am - Prayer

9:15 am - Sunday School & Bible Study

10:30 am - Morning Worship

Series: “A Strange Way to Save the World”

Part 1: “Why Did God Become a Man?”

Text: John 1:14

Jr. Church for kids age 3 thru grade 3.

Nursery available for infants

6:00 pm – Men’s Small Group

Monday, December 3, 2018

10:00 am - Prayer

6:30 pm – Kids 4 Christ Staff Meeting

Tuesday, December 4, 2018

8:30 am - MOPS Group

6:30 pm – Adult Bible Study

Wednesday, December 5, 2018

12:30 pm – Seniors’ Lunch is CANCELLED this month

6:00 pm - Kids 4 Christ (kids age 3 thru grade 6)

ALIVE (youth grades 7-12)

Thursday, December 6, 2018

8:00 am – Clinton Area Men’s Bible Study (at Co-op Grill)

Saturday, December 8, 2018

8:00 am – Men’s Breakfast

6:00 pm – Doers Class Christmas Party

I sure hope to see you this weekend as we worship Almighty God together. God is sooooo good!

Please come to worship with a Bible in your hands, and excitement in your heart. God is an awesome God, and He is worthy of all of our praise and our worship.

Pastor Larry