

December 17, 2023

## **Making Room For What Matters Most**

### **Luke 2:4-7 NIV**

So Joseph also went up from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to Bethlehem the town of David, because he belonged to the house and line of David. He went there to register with Mary, who was pledged to be married to him and was expecting a child. While they were there, the time came for the baby to be born, and she gave birth to her firstborn, a son. She wrapped him in cloths and placed him in a manger, because there was no guest room available for them.

**To make room for Jesus we have to remember what matters most.**

When the long-awaited Messiah came there was no room for Him. He had to be born in a stable – barn – shed – laid in manger (feeding trough). This is not the way you would expect the Savior of the world to get His start.

The same can happen in our lives. We forgot to make room for what's most important this time of year and that is all about Jesus. He is not just a part of our lives; he is what everything in our lives is all about. Here is what other people in the bible shared about how much God was a part of their lives.

### **Psalm 73:25-26 ESV**

Whom have I in heaven but you? And there is nothing on earth that I desire besides you. My flesh and my heart may fail, but God is the strength of my heart and my portion forever.

**Philippians 3:8-9 ESV**

Indeed, I count everything as loss because of the surpassing worth of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For his sake I have suffered the loss of all things and count them as rubbish, in order that I may gain Christ and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law, but that which comes through faith in Christ, the righteousness from God that depends on faith.

**To make room for Jesus we need to know that he made room for us.**

All of things actually go better and work better when our relationship with God is at top priority because we are not trying to do those things with just our strength, we are relying on God to help us in all of those areas, and trust me, we need his help in all of those areas and he helps them function properly.

**Hebrews 12:2-3 MSG**

Keep your eyes on *Jesus*, who both began and finished this race we're in. Study how he did it. Because he never lost sight of where he was headed—that exhilarating finish in and with God—he could put up with anything along the way: Cross, shame, whatever. And now he's *there*, in the place of honor, right alongside God. When you find yourselves flagging in your faith, go over that story again, item by item, that long litany of hostility he plowed through. *That* will shoot adrenaline into your souls!

How can you make more room in your life for Jesus this season?