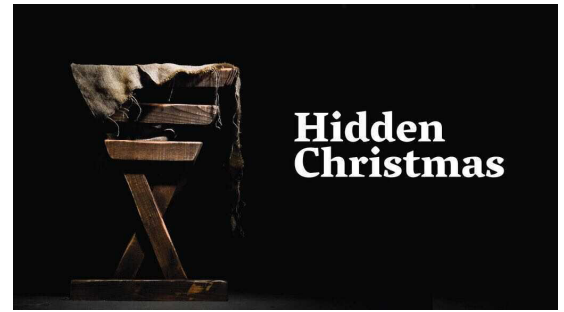


Hidden Christmas

Joy (12.13.20)

S Scripture
O Observation
A Application
P Prayer



The incarnation reveals your belief.

- Let's dive in the deep end right away. What are some ways Christians' professed beliefs do not match their actions?

Read: Matthew 1:18

- Why do you suppose God sent a baby rather than a general, an emperor, or a powerful person who could take charge and made an immediate difference?
- Put yourself in Mary's shoes. What might it have been like to live her experience?

Read: Matthew 1:19-23

- What must it have been like to be Joseph?
- Matthew quoted Isaiah to prove that Jesus was the Messiah. All the gospel authors did this in their biographies of Jesus. Yet for most first-century Jews this was not enough to convince them of Jesus' divinity. Why were they so resistant to the idea of Jesus as God? In what ways are we?

Read: Matthew 1:24-25

- It took a dream to convince Joseph, but once he was convinced he was completely obedient. What will it take to convince us to live obediently?

Prayer: Pray John 14:15 – "If you love me, keep my commands." Ask God to grow your love for him so big that you're motivated to obey.