

HOME FOR CHRISTMAS – PART 3: NO PLACE LIKE HOME

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 19, 2021

The phrase, “there’s no place like home” likely takes many people to the movie, The Wizard of Oz – a story about a girl who is transported to a magical land and is looking for the way home. We all long for a place to call home – a place where we can be fully known, loved, accepted, a place where we belong. In the story of the first Christmas, we discover that God desires to make our hearts his home.

READ LUKE 2:1-7

- What are some ways the decree for a census would have disrupted “home” for Joseph and Mary?
- What are some reasons Joseph might have taken Mary with him to Bethlehem?
- What is the significance of Caesar’s decree placing the birth of Jesus in Bethlehem (fulfilling prophecy)?
- Do you think it’s important to place yourself in the position God desires? Why or why not?

READ MATTHEW 2:13-23

- Why would the birth of Jesus pose a threat to Herod?
- What are some ways fleeing to Egypt would disrupt “home” for Joseph, Mary & Jesus?
- Do you think God still warns people today of impending danger? Why or why not? If so, what are some forms God’s warnings take?
- Why do you think Joseph had a sense of urgency to listen to God’s warning?
- What do you see the significance being of Jesus’ birth and God becoming one of us?
- How does Jesus’ birth provide the pathway to “home” in relationship with God?
- Why do you think people today lack a sense of urgency about relationship with God?
- How would you describe your level of urgency about relationship with God?
- How would you describe your level of urgency about others’ relationship with God?
- What next step will you take make God at home in your heart?

PEOPLE LONG FOR A PLACE TO CALL HOME