



## WORD

5Your attitude should be the same as that of Christ Jesus: 6Who, being in very nature God, did not consider equality with God something to be grasped, 7but made himself nothing, taking the very nature of a servant, being made in human likeness. 8And being found in appearance as a man, he humbled himself and became obedient to death—even death on a cross!

Philippians 2:5-8

## WHAT

*What does the Bible say?*

The ancient Jewish faith included pilgrimage as an important practice or what they call the “Passover.” It was during these times that Jesus was born. Today, we don’t practice Passover anymore but Christmas is the best time to look back at the miracle that started with Jesus’ birth—God’s greatest gift to mankind. What truths does this miracle bring us?

- **Jesus is God incarnate, born to save us.**

“She will give birth to a son, and you are to give him the name Jesus, because he will save his people from their sins.”

Matthew 1:21

**“Jesus” means “God saves” and that is exactly the plan—because of God’s great love for us, He sent His only Son to save us. Jesus, who is completely God also became completely human (Philippians 2:6,7) to identify with us and to become our substitute on the cross (2 Corinthians 5:21), the perfect sacrifice to pay the penalty for our sins. Jesus also lived the sinless life we could not live. What does Philippians 2:3,4 tell us about God’s love for us?**

- **Jesus’ death brings salvation.**

And being found in appearance as a man, he humbled himself and became obedient to death—even death on a cross!

Philippians 2:8

In this passage, the Apostle Paul used the word “even” to emphasize that Jesus did not just die a convenient death, but endured the indignity of a death on a cross—an ultimate opposite of His royal nature. Through Jesus’ obedience to the Father, the blood He shed on the cross gave us redemption and forgiveness of sins (Ephesians 1:17). What else has Jesus’ death on the cross given us (Colossians 1:19, 20)?

- **All who call on Jesus’ Name will be saved.**

9That if you confess with your mouth, “Jesus is Lord,” and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. . . 11As the Scripture says, “Anyone who trusts in him will never be put to shame. . .” 13for, “Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved.”

Romans 10:9,11,13

Jesus’ work on the cross is a complete work (John 19:30), which means our own efforts to be good or do good cannot add anything to it. Jesus has finished it all for us and all we need to do is accept His gift. We do that by trusting in Him, that He is God and it is by His grace that we are saved. Knowing that Jesus redeemed us from sin and death, what should be our rightful response?

## SO WHAT

*What is the relevance of the Word to my life?*

- In light of what we really celebrate during Christmas, how will you share to others that “Jesus is the reason for the season?”
- How will you celebrate a meaningful Christmas this year? How can you share this with your loved ones?
- How does your life reflect your gratitude for what Jesus did for you?

## NOW WHAT

*How do I apply the Word to my life?*

- What practical ways can you do or practice so the way you celebrate Christmas with your loved ones is putting Christ in the center of it all?
- Have you “called on the name of Jesus” yet? Have you received the gift of salvation that He has been offering you? Talk to your Victory group leader about it.
- How can you thank Jesus for saving you? Make a list of ways that you can live out starting today.