

CHRISTMAS

AT TRADERS POINT



MESSAGE REVIEW

Waiting is something we aren't typically very good at. And sadly, 2020 has felt like one giant waiting room. When we look at the Bible, one of the longest seasons of waiting happened when God's people waited for the fulfillment of the promise of a coming Messiah. The story of Christmas shows us that just because we find ourselves waiting doesn't mean that God isn't working. God always fulfills His promises at just the right time.

WARM UP QUESTION

What types of things do you do to avoid waiting somewhere?

1 Read Isaiah 7:14 and Micah 5:2. What stands out to you about these two prophecies concerning a future Messiah? How do you think the Jewish audience would have heard them? What does it mean to you that Jesus fulfilled every one of the over 300 prophecies in the Old Testament regarding the coming Messiah?

2 Read Luke 2:1-7. What details in these verses show you Luke isn't just telling a story, he's recounting history? How do you see both prophecies from question 1 fulfilled? What is the significance of listing Joseph's ancestry (see Jeremiah 23:5-6)?

3 Mary and Joseph would have grown up knowing all of these prophecies, yet the prophecies had been given nearly 700 years before them. Put yourself in either of their shoes. What do you think it would have been like for them? Have you ever experienced what you felt like was silence from God? How did you respond?

4 Read Galatians 4:4-5 and 1 Timothy 2:5-6. What do these verses say about "the right time," and what does that teach you about the sovereignty of God? Why does it matter that Jesus was born of a woman and subject to the law? How does or doesn't that help you in your season of life?

5 What are the benefits we receive as followers of Christ according to these verses? How have you experienced these benefits in your own life?

RESPOND

What have you learned about God from His Word? How is He asking you to apply it to your life? When will you apply it?

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