

WILL I MAKE ROOM FOR JESUS?

The Light of Jesus at Christmas – Rick Warren
Parts 1-3

"In those days Caesar Augustus issued a decree that a census should be taken of the entire Roman world. This was the first census that took place while Quirinius was governor of Syria. And everyone went to his own town to register. 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 ROOM FOR THEM in the inn." Luke 2:1-7 (NIV)

WHY DO WE HAVE NO ROOM FOR JESUS?

1. _____
"They saw him, but somehow did not recognize him." Luke 24:16 (GNT)

Jesus: *"If you only knew the gift God has for you and who I am, you'd be asking me for a drink and I'd give you living water." John 4:10 (NLT)*

2. _____
"The unspiritual person has no room for the gifts of God's Spirit; to him they are folly; he cannot even recognize them." 1 Corinthians 2:14 (NJB)

"They are overwhelmed with worries about all the things they have to do and all the things they want to get. The stress strangles what they heard, and nothing comes of it." Mark 4:10 (The Message)

"Mary sat at Jesus' feet listening to what he said. But Martha was distracted by all the preparations that had to be made. She came to Jesus and said, 'Lord, don't you care that my sister has left me to do the work by myself? Tell her to help me!' But Jesus said, 'Dear Martha, you get so upset over all these details! But there's really only one thing worth being concerned about, and Mary has discovered it.'" Luke 10: 39-42 (NLT)

"Make sure you don't become SO FULL of yourself and your things that you forget God!" Deuteronomy 8:14 (The Message)

3. _____
"People are too proud to seek God. They do not look for him; there is no room for God in their thoughts." Psalm 10:4 (NCV)

"We're all like sheep who've wandered off and gotten lost. We've all done our own thing, gone our own way." Isaiah 53:6 (The Message)

WHY SHOULD I MAKE ROOM FOR JESUS?

1. TO KNOW _____
"Before anything else existed, there was Christ, with God. He has always been alive and is himself God. He created everything there is—nothing exists that he didn't make! Eternal life is in him, and this life gives light to all mankind." John 1:1-4 (TLB)

"For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life." John 3:16 (NIV)

"He came to the world, which belonged to Him but those who were His did not receive Him and did not welcome Him. But to those who DID receive and welcome Him, He gave the privilege and power to become the children of God, because they believe in his name!" John 1:11-12 (AMP)

2. TO ENJOY _____
"The smallness you feel comes from within you. Your lives aren't small, but you're living them in a small way . . . Open up your lives. Live openly and expansively!" 2 Corinthians 6:12-13 (The Message)

"I am leaving you with a gift—peace of mind and heart! And the peace I give you isn't fragile like the peace the world gives. So you won't be troubled or afraid." John 14:27 (TLB)

"God does not give us a spirit that makes us afraid or fearful but a spirit of power and love and self-control." 2 Timothy 1:7 (NCV)

"In LOVE there is NO ROOM for fear, but perfect love drives out all fear!" 1 John 4:18

HOW DO I MAKE ROOM FOR JESUS?

• _____
Jesus: *"Listen! I am standing and knocking at your door. If you hear my voice and open the door, I will come in and we will eat together." Revelation 3:20 (CEV)*

"Open up before God, keep nothing back; he'll do whatever needs to be done!" Psalm 37:5 (The Message)

Next Step

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THE LIGHT OF JESUS FOR YOUR DARKEST DAYS

The Light of Jesus at Christmas – Rick Warren
Parts 1-2

“People should enjoy every day of their lives, no matter how long they live. But they should also remember there will be many dark days.” Ecclesiastes 11:8 (GW)

TYPES OF DARK DAYS: Days of confusion . . . conflict . . . disappointment . . . loss . . . loneliness . . . grief . . . stress . . . anxiety and fear . . . heartbreak . . . depression . . . despair . . .

THE ANTIDOTE:

“God is light and in him there is no darkness at all.” 1 John 1:5 (TLB)

“In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth . . . God said, ‘Let there be light!’ and there was light. And God saw that the light was good, and he separated the light from the darkness.” Genesis 1:1-4

Jesus: *“I have come as a Light to shine in this dark world, so that all who put their trust in me will no longer wander in darkness.” John 12:46 (TLB)*

HOW DOES THE LIGHT OF JESUS HELP ME IN DARK DAYS?

1. LIGHT

“Light makes all things easy to see.” Ephesians 5:13 (NCV)

“I am THE LIGHT of the world! If you follow me, you won’t be stumbling through the DARKNESS, for living light will flood your path!” John 8:12 (TLB)

• IN DARK DAYS, I NEED THE LIGHT OF JESUS WHEN

“For anyone who doesn’t know where you’re going, anyone groping in the dark, here’s what to do: Trust in God. Yes, lean on God!” Isaiah 50:10 (The Message)

“Your words are a flashlight to light the path ahead of me and keep me from stumbling.” Psalm 119:105 (TLB)

“God’s instructions are always right and they point the way to happiness. His commands shine brightly, and they light up the right way to go.” Psalm 19:8

God: *“I’ll take the hand of those who don’t know the way, who can’t see where they’re going. I’ll be a personal guide to them, directing them through unknown country. I’ll be right there to show them what roads to take, and make sure they don’t fall into the ditch. These are the things I’ll be doing for them—sticking with them, not leaving them for a minute.” Isaiah 42:16 (The Message)*

“Even though I go through the deepest darkness, I will not be afraid, Lord, for you are with me.” Psalm 23:4

2. LIGHT

“If we claim to have a relationship with God, but we continue living in DARKNESS, we lie and we aren’t following the truth. But, if we live in the LIGHT, as God is in the light, then we can have real fellowship with each other, and the blood of Jesus, God’s Son, PURIFIES US from all sin. If we claim to be without any sin, we’re only fooling ourselves and refusing to accept the truth. But if we confess our sins to him, God is faithful and just and will FORGIVE us and CLEANSE US from every wrong.”

1 John 1:6-9

• IN DARK DAYS, I NEED THE LIGHT OF JESUS WHEN

“You, Lord, are my light; and you DISPEL my darkness!” 2 Samuel 22:29

“In the past, your life was full of darkness, but now you are full of light in the Lord! Now you can live like children of light. And God’s light brings every kind of goodness, right living, and truth.” Ephesians 5:8-9 (NCV)

3. LIGHT

• IN DARK DAYS, I NEED THE LIGHT OF JESUS WHEN

“I’m wounded and in pain. So rescue me, O God, by your saving power.” Psalm 69:29

“He forgives all my sins and he heals me.” Psalm 103:3 (TLB)

“The Father has made you able to share in all he’s prepared for his people in the Kingdom of Light. For he has freed us from the power of darkness.”

Colossians 1:12-13

4. LIGHT

• IN DARK DAYS, I NEED THE LIGHT OF JESUS

“I’m asking God . . . to give you spiritual wisdom and understanding, so that you will GROW in your knowledge of God. I pray that your hearts will be FLOODED WITH LIGHT so that you can understand the wonderful future he has promised to those he called.” Ephesians 1:17-18

“You Lord, are the giver of LIFE! And your LIGHT lets us ENJOY LIFE.” Psalm 36:9

“I am the light of the world. If you follow me, you won’t be stumbling through the darkness, because you’ll have the light that leads to life!” John 8:12

“I came to give life—life in all its fullness.” John 10:10 (NCV)

“For the same God who once said, ‘Let there be light in the darkness!’ has now made his light to shine in our hearts! It is the brightness of God’s glory that we see shining in the face of Jesus Christ.” 2 Corinthians 4:6

“The darkness in our lives disappears and the new light of life in Christ shines in!”

1 John 2:8 (TLB)