



VALLEY CHURCH

Family Pastor Isaac Dailey
If Christ Had Not Come

December 15 & 16, 2018
John 15:22; Galatians 4:4

"If I had not come" (John 15:22)

"But when the time had fully come, God sent his Son, born of a woman, born under law" (Galatians 4:4)

In today's text Jesus said, **"If I had not come."** But we know He did come—and because of that fact, history itself has been changed forever. For a little over 30 years the Son of God walked on this earth, and nothing has been the same since.

Jesus is the center of history. History is really "His Story", planned and told by God. History gives us dates and times and places and people, but only God can give meaning to history. His birth is the hinge on which the door of history swings.

1. Because Jesus came into the world, my _____ are _____ – past, present & future.

God's Word says, "All have sinned, and come short of the glory of God; Being justified freely by His grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus" (Ro. 3:23-24).

2. Because Jesus came into the world, I can _____ in His _____.

"I can do all things through Christ which strengthens me" (Phil. 4:13). None of us knows what's coming tomorrow, but God gives us a sufficient measure of faith to make it through today.

3. Because Jesus came into the world, my _____ is _____.

If Jesus is your Savior, you know where you're going. Hebrews 2:14-15 says, "Forasmuch then as the children are partakers of the flesh and blood, He also Himself likewise took part of the same; that through death He might destroy him that had the power of death, that is, the devil; And deliver them who through fear of death were all their lifetime subject to bondage." God came to earth as the man Jesus Christ. He overcame sin and death on every level.

God's gifts are personal, practical, and priceless. Jesus said, "Peace I leave with you, My peace I give unto you: not as the world giveth, give I unto you" (John 14:27). Through the death, burial, and resurrection of our Savior and Lord Jesus Christ, our sins are forgiven, and our guilt is eradicated.

Small Group Questions

Personal Life:

1. Have you ever waited in expectation for a promise that never came true? Share if you are willing...

Ponderings:

2. If Christ had not come, how would the world be different?
3. Have you ever pondered where your life might be today if you had never met Jesus? Discuss...
4. Read Hebrews 2:14-15 as a group. How often do you think about physical death? Would you consider yourself "fearful" of death? If Jesus came to destroy bondage to that fear, are you willing to trust Him with it?

Promptings:

5. What are some of your fears as Christmas approaches? How does your relationship with Jesus impact your ability to experience His rest? How might God use you this Christmas season to bring rest into someone else's life?