



*Word*  
AN ADVENT SERIES

*December 7, 2016*

# MESSAGE NOTES

Word | Part 2

God sent a man, John the Baptist, to tell about the light so that everyone might believe because of his testimony. John himself was not the light; he was simply a witness to tell about the light. The one who is the true light, who gives light to everyone, was coming into the world.

John 1:6-9 (NLT)

## How can I simply be a witness for Jesus?

1. Rest \_\_\_\_\_.

*(John the Baptist) came right out and said, "I am not the Messiah."*

John 1:20 (NLT)

2. Recognize \_\_\_\_\_.

*So John's disciples came to him and said, "Rabbi, the man you met on the other side of the Jordan River, the one you identified as the Messiah, is also baptizing people. And everybody is going to him instead of coming to us." John replied, "No one can receive anything unless God gives it from heaven. You yourselves know how plainly I told you, 'I am not the Messiah. I am only here to prepare the way for him.' It is the bridegroom who marries the bride, and the bridegroom's friend is simply glad to stand with him and hear his vows. Therefore, I am filled with joy at his success."*

John 3:26-29 (NLT)

3. Remain \_\_\_\_\_.

*He must become greater and greater, and I must become less and less. He has come from above and is greater than anyone else. We are of the earth, and we speak of earthly things, but he has come from heaven and is greater than anyone else."*

John 3:30-31 (NLT)

# GRACE NEWS

If you want more information or to volunteer with any of these opportunities, please make a note on the Let's Connect card.

**Grace Kidz** are meeting on Saturday mornings from 11-12:30 to learn the Bible, do crafts and have a snack! The kids will also be working on a CHRISTMAS performance for the Dec. 17th Community dinner.

**Saturday December 10th**, 7am – noon – Neighborhood yard sale. Spots are free, rent a table for \$5.

**Saturday December 17th** 5pm-7pm – Christmas Dinner. All are welcome! Includes musical performance by Grace Kidz. Call or register online.

**Saturday December 24th**, 7pm & 8:30pm Christmas Eve Candlelight and Caroling. Join the fun while we sing Christmas carols, drink hot chocolate and tour the SRQ Parade of Lights on a trolley car ending with the Christmas Story! Trolley will depart at 7pm and 8:30 pm. Call or register online for your spot.

**Church on the Water!** What??? YUP! Let's experiment together. Start the new year off by worshipping on the water, prayer and message! Sunday, January 1st, 8am – 10am. Launching at Vamo Road Park. Bring your own kayak, canoe, SUP or let us know you need one.

### MARCH 26 LAUNCH Updates:

Launch team Leaders meeting Wed. 7:15-8:00.  
Saturday Campus wide workday to get ready for launch! 8-12  
Wednesday 12-1pm: Join us in Starting Point for prayer for our church, our city and our launch! Join a launch team-Launch team meetings start in January.

# LET'S CONNECT

PLEASE TEAR OUT AND DROP IN BASKETS AS YOU EXIT

Date:     /     /

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Best way to contact you: \_\_\_\_\_

## I WOULD LIKE INFORMATION ABOUT:

I would like to meet with the pastor.

## MY DECISION TODAY

- I said **YES** for the first time, and became a follower of Jesus.
- I decided to **RENEW** my relationship with Jesus.

*We have resources to help you with your decision.*

# HAVES

If you have any gifts, talents, professional skills, or life experiences that you are willing to use to help others or to help grow Grace Church, please list here:

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# NEEDS

If you are in need of prayer, a skilled professional, or simply someone to connect with who has been through a similar difficult life experience that you are currently facing, please describe need here:

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*To confidentially discuss **haves** or **needs** with the pastor, please call 941.966.3306 for an appointment.*

## SMART GIVING

go to: [egracechurch.com/give](http://egracechurch.com/give)

-OR-

text any amount to: 941.200.1515

An effective and time-saving way to give your tithes and offerings without carrying cash or writing checks.



**Monday, December 26th through February 4th:** 40 day community fast. Sign up to fast 1 or more of these days.

**Sprout Food Ministry Outreach and Community breakfast** 2nd and 4th Thursdays of the month in the parking lot. Free breakfast 8:30-9:45 Sprout truck 10-12pm. Join us for breakfast, to volunteer and/or to pick up some supplemental food for the month if you are in need.

**Financial Peace University** – Tuesdays, 6:30-8:00pm, January 10th - March 7th. Millions of people, including dozens of Grace Church families have taken this class and changed their approach to money and finances. Pastor Patti & Steve will be facilitating.

## SCHEDULE

**University of the Holy Spirit:**  
Bible Study, Saturdays 11am-12:30pm

**Grace Kidz:**  
Saturdays, 11am-12:30pm

**Acts 2:42 Weekly Gathering:**  
Wednesday Evenings 6-8pm

**Wednesday Prayer:**  
12-1pm

**Sprout Food Ministry:**  
2nd and 4th Thursday, 10-12 in the parking lot

[egracechurch.com/sarasota](http://egracechurch.com/sarasota)

Phone: 941.966.3306

email: [sarasota@egracechurch.com](mailto:sarasota@egracechurch.com)