

== *It Wouldn't be* ==

CHRISTMAS

Without...



December 31, 2017

How can I respond to this messy part of the Christmas story?

1. I can _____ the King or not.

Jesus was born in Bethlehem in Judea, during the reign of King Herod. About that time some wise men from eastern lands arrived in Jerusalem, asking, "Where is the newborn king of the Jews? We saw his star as it rose, and we have come to worship him." King Herod was deeply disturbed when he heard this, as was everyone in Jerusalem.

Matthew 2:1-3 (NLT)

2. I can _____ the King or not.

Then Herod called for a private meeting with the wise men, and he learned from them the time when the star first appeared. Then he told them, "Go to Bethlehem and search carefully for the child. And when you find him, come back and tell me so that I can go and worship him, too!" After this interview the wise men went their way. And the star they had seen in the east guided them to Bethlehem. It went ahead of them and stopped over the place where the child was. When they saw the star, they were filled with joy! They entered the house and saw the child with his mother, Mary, and they bowed down and worshiped him. Then they opened their treasure chests and gave him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh.

Matthew 2:7-11 (NLT)

3. I can _____ the King or not.

When it was time to leave, they returned to their own country by another route, for God had warned them in a dream not to return to Herod. After the wise men were gone, an angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream. "Get up! Flee to Egypt with the child and his mother," the angel said. "Stay there until I tell you to return, because Herod is going to search for the child to kill him."

Matthew 2:12-13 (NLT)

God's Vision for Grace Church:

To partner with God in transforming people from unbelievers to fully devoted disciples of Jesus to the glory of God.

GRACE NEWS

HUNGER WALK-The Annual Harry Chapin Hunger Walk is Saturday, January 20th. Registration begins at 8:30 AM and walk starts at 9:30 AM. Each dollar donated allows us to buy \$8.00 dollars' worth of food! This fundraiser supports our food pantry for the year which includes 2nd Saturday and Wednesday nights. You can donate at goo.gl/uc463a.

NEW MESSAGE SERIES - As wonderful and important weekly worship together is, God seems to do his best work in and through us when we circle up with others. In circles, we are knee - to - knee with each other, and can look each other in the eyes. In our next sermon series, titled "Circle Up" we will discover the types of spiritual friendships we need to live richly and deeply in Christ together.

WHAT IS EMMAUS? The Emmaus Walk is a 3-day retreat that encourages and renews commitments to Christ, and it is life changing! Ask anyone who has gone and they will affirm that the Walk played an important role in their faith journey. The Men's Walk is March 15-18, and the Women's Walk is March 22-25, at the Port Labelle Inn, in air-conditioned comfort. Interested in growing in your walk with God? Contact Pastor Shari for more information, or say YES to the person who's been after you to go! Applications are in the Welcome Area.

PARTNERSHIP CLASS - Interested in becoming a Partner at Grace Church? Mark "Partner" on your Let's Connect Card. Northern friends, did you know you can still keep your northern membership and be a Partner here? We want to be your spiritual home when you are here!

LET'S CONNECT

PLEASE TEAR OUT AND DROP IN BASKETS AS YOU EXIT

Date: / /

Service Attended: _____

- 1st time 2nd time 3rd time
 Regular Attendee Church Member
 Male Female

Name(s): _____

- Single 18-23 50's
 Married 24-29 60+
 Divorced 30's
 Widowed 40's
 Middle School High School College

Address: _____

City: _____

State: _____ Zip: _____

Ph: _____

Cell: _____

Email: _____

- Please update my contact information

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.

PRAYER REQUESTS

PRAY FOR: _____

Public Prayer List For Pastors Only

I WOULD LIKE INFORMATION ABOUT:

SMART GIVING

go to: egracechurch.com/give

-OR-

text any amount + "Shores" to:

239.443.5901

(like this: 100 Shores)

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



egracechurch.com

SCHEDULE

Worship Times:

Sunday at 8:30am (Traditional)

Sunday at 10am (Contemporary)

Grace Kidz/Youth

Grace Place (Infant – 5th grade): Sunday 9:45am

PrE-Team (3 - 4yo): Wed. 6-8pm

E-Team (5yo to 4th grade): Wed. 6-8pm

TwEEN Team (5th & 6th grade): Wed. 6-8pm

Revolution (7th grade - High School):

Wednesday from 6-8pm

Recovery

AA Meeting: Mon, Wed, Fri 12pm (Office)

OA: Monday & Thursday 7:30pm (Family Room)

Daniel Plan: Tuesday 1pm (Room 2)

AA Women's Meeting: Tuesday 7pm (Office)

AA Open Discussion: Thursday 8pm (Cafe)

AL Anon: Friday 12pm (Family Room)

AA Open Speaker: Saturday 7pm (Cafe)

ATTENDANCE

10am	5 & 7	Wed.	Total
123	227	120	470

GIVING

Shores General Fund	
Last Week	\$ 8,128

egracechurch.com