

"The Gift of Christmas"
(The Holy One in Our Midst)

→ The Christmas Proclamation Calls for Believers and Receivers - Jo 1:1-18

- In the astonishing news that God became one of us! - Phil 2:6-8

- God comes in the flesh so He may come into our flesh - I Jo 3:1

- The Holy One is in our midst - Hosea 11:9

→ The Christmas Story Is First About Receiving - Jo 3:16

- "Unto us a child is born": He gives us His humanity - Is 9:6

- "Unto us a son is given": He gives us His divinity - Is 9:6

- We receive the gift of a Person - Jo 1:12

...Who is Wonderful, Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace
- Is 9:6; Ro 8:32

→ The Effects of Receiving the Gift:

- A great reversal - Is 9:2

...from darkness to light

- A great rejoicing - Is 9:3

...from loss to gain

- A great release - Is 9:4

...from bondage to freedom

→ The Christmas Proclamation Calls for Witnesses and Givers

- Once I was _____, now I am _____

...and I know Who made the difference!

- We see ourselves as gifts of God to the world

...freely we have received, freely we give