



Your
story
matters.

DEC 21, 2025

Message Notes

SG

Your group matters.

DISCUSSION GUIDE

- Icebreaker -

Of all the Christmas specials you watched as a kid,
who was your favorite supporting character
(not main Character) and why?

1. If “every heart [is to] prepare Him room”, then what are you intentionally doing to prepare/preserve space in your heart to worship and adore Jesus this Christmas, or has preparing for the “party” consumed all the internal capacity that you have?
2. Pastor Tony used King Herod ([Luke 1:5](#)) and Caesar Augustus ([Luke 2:1](#)) as examples of people who “missed Jesus completely” because they were so concerned with their empire and authority. How does trying to control your own life and circumstances clutter the space in your heart for Jesus?
3. How did Mary make room in her heart for Jesus even when He overturned her plans and expectations? ([Luke 1:27-29, 38](#)) How will you make room for God’s unexpected ways when they conflict with your own plans?
4. For the shepherds, their hearts were filled with a sense of unworthiness – that God would never dream of abiding in them. How can a sense of unworthiness keep us from thriving in Jesus?
5. Pastor Tony said that “God is so passionate about you that He is not going to give up on you because you’ve missed Him...you do not have to miss Him today.” Set a 2-minute timer and as a group, take a moment of silence to make room for Jesus; invite Him to fill you and He will! If you have not yet said your ‘YES’!... now is your opportunity to do so.

PERSONAL GUIDE

This Personal Guide has been adapted from Professor Grant Horner's Bible Reading System.

Day One: Luke 13; Psalm 146

Day Two: Numbers 29; Proverbs 22

Day Three: Hebrews 3; 2 Kings 20

Day Four: 2 Timothy 2; Ezekiel 23

Day Five: Job 22; Acts 6



**Merry and Bright:
Celebrating the Greatest Gift of Christmas**
"Let Every Heart Prepare Him Room"
 Tony Myles | Dec 21, 2025

What do you _____ for? How can you tell?
 Whenever we do this, it reveals what we do (and don't) _____.
 There is a real _____ inside of us that creates a gap...
 one we're tempted to ignore or _____ other things into.
 God has said that the only real option is to _____.
 (See **Isaiah 55:2**)
 Some of the people in the real-life Christmas story dealt with so much
 _____ that they could've (or did) miss Jesus
 completely.

Context: **Luke 1:5-45, Matthew 1:18-25, Luke 2:1-20**

Questions worth asking to prepare Him room...

How am I distracted by my _____? (Herod, **Luke 1:5**)

- When do I work so hard to build a life that I miss
 _____ to real Life?

How am I distracted by my _____?
 (Elizabeth, **Luke 1:7, 24-26a**)

- When do I let disappointment convince me to expect
 _____?

How am I distracted by my _____? (Zechariah, **Luke 1:8-9, 18**)

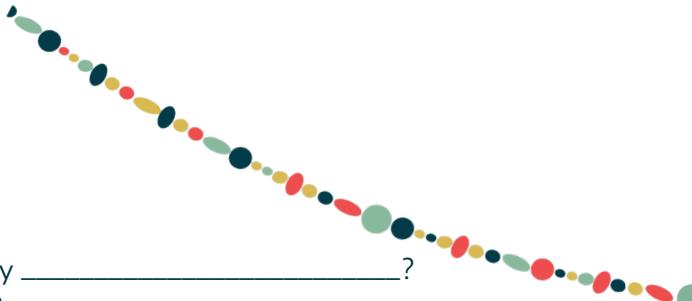
- When do I assume my _____ are the whole
 _____?

How am I distracted by my _____?
 (The people, **Luke 1:10, 21-22**)

- When do I fill in the gaps from _____?

How am I distracted by my _____?
 (Mary, **Luke 1:27-29, 38**)

- When do I elevate my dreamy _____ over my deeper
 _____?



How am I distracted by my _____?

(Joseph, [Matthew 1:19-21](#))

- When do I let my _____ keep God from being _____?

How am I distracted by my _____?

(Caesar Augustus, [Luke 2:1](#))

- When do I find myself _____ in ways that _____ Jesus?

How am I distracted by my _____?

(The family, [Luke 2:4-7](#))

- When do I allow seemingly "_____" things to push God out into the _____?

How am I distracted by my _____?

(The shepherds, [Luke 2:8-20](#))

- When do I convince myself that God wouldn't let _____ draw near?

How can this Christmas actually be "merry and bright"?

- God is so passionate about you that He is not going to give up on you because you've missed Him. You may have missed many opportunities to connect with God in the past... but you do not have to miss Him today.
- Once you've made room for Jesus, you have _____.
- You also have the awareness to help _____.

Don't miss this...

God chose a Divine birth in a _____, which transformed it.

So _____ God in anything or anyone, but live in a way that helps them see God in you.

Tell us about the next step you took today in your spiritual journey!

App: Message Notes/Connect Card **Or:** [MYRC.LINK/CONNECT](#)



Merry and Bright: Celebrating the Greatest Gift of Christmas

"Let Every Heart Prepare Him Room"

Tony Myles | Dec 21, 2025

What do you make room for? How can you tell?

Whenever we do this, it reveals what we do (and don't) value.

There is a real brokenness inside of us that creates a gap...

one we're tempted to ignore or cram other things into.

God has said that the only real option is to let Him in. (See **Isaiah 55:2**)

Some of the people in the real-life Christmas story dealt with so much distraction that they could've (or did) miss Jesus completely.

Context: **Luke 1:5-45, Matthew 1:18-25, Luke 2:1-20**

Questions worth asking to prepare Him room...

How am I distracted by my empire? (Herod, **Luke 1:5**)

- When do I work so hard to build a life that I miss surrendering to real Life?

How am I distracted by my limitations? (Elizabeth, **Luke 1:7, 24-26a**)

- When do I let disappointment convince me to expect nothing?

How am I distracted by my beliefs? (Zechariah, **Luke 1:8-9, 18**)

- When do I assume my experiences are the whole Story?

How am I distracted by my speculation? (The people, **Luke 1:10, 21-22**)

- When do I fill in the gaps from my own gaps?

How am I distracted by my expectations? (Mary, **Luke 1:27-29, 38**)

- When do I elevate my dreamy plans over my deeper purpose?

How am I distracted by my righteousness? (Joseph, **Matthew 1:19-21**)

- When do I let my ruler keep God from being Ruler?

How am I distracted by my authority? (Caesar Augustus, **Luke 2:1**)

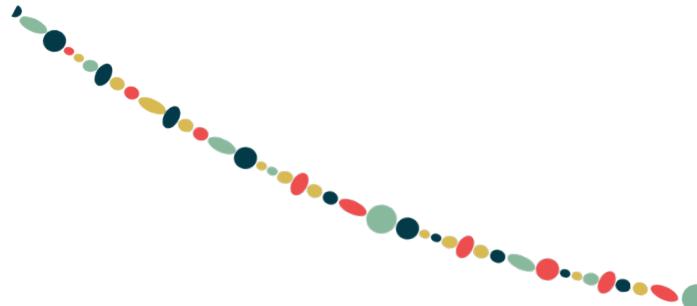
- When do I find myself flexing in ways that muscle out Jesus?

How am I distracted by my loved ones? (The family, **Luke 2:4-7**)

- When do I allow seemingly "good" things to push God out into the cold?

How am I distracted by my unworthiness? (The shepherds, **Luke 2:8-20**)

- When do I convince myself that God wouldn't let someone like me draw near?



How can this Christmas actually be "merry and bright"?

- God is so passionate about you that He is not going to give up on you because you've missed Him. You may have missed many opportunities to connect with God in the past... but you do not have to miss Him today.
- Once you've made room for Jesus, you have Jesus.
- You also have the awareness to help let every heart prepare Him room.

Don't miss this...

God chose a Divine birth in a foul place, which transformed it. So don't limit God in anything or anyone, but live in a way that helps them see God in you.

Tell us about the next step you took today in your spiritual journey!

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