

A night scene of a desert town with a bright star in the sky and a beam of light shining down on a central building. The scene is set in a dark, starry night sky. A bright, multi-pointed star is positioned at the top center, with a beam of light shining down from it onto a central building in a town below. The town consists of several white, rectangular buildings with small, glowing windows. The ground is dark and appears to be a desert landscape with some low hills in the background. The overall atmosphere is serene and spiritual.

THE MISSION OF  
*Christ*

# Part 1

**Are You Focusing On  
CHRIST Or On  
Christmas?**

# John 1:1

**In the beginning was the Word.**

**The Word was with God,**

**and the Word was God.**

# John 1:2

He was with God in the beginning.

# John 1:3

God created everything through him,  
and nothing was created except  
through him.

# John 1:4

**The Word gave life to everything that was created, and his life brought light to everyone.**

# John 1:5

**The light shines in the darkness, and  
the darkness cannot overcome it.**

# John 1:6

God sent a man, John the Baptist,



# John 1:7

to tell about the light so that  
everyone might believe because of his  
testimony.

# John 1:8

John himself was not the light; he was simply a witness to tell about the light.

# John 1:9

The one who is the true light, who gives light to everyone, was coming into the world.

# John 1:10

He came into the very world he created, but the world didn't recognize him.

# John 1:11

He came to his own people, and even  
they rejected him.

# John 1:12

**But to all who believed him and accepted him, he gave the right to become children of God.**

# John 1:13

**They are reborn—not with a physical birth resulting from human passion or plan, but a birth that comes from God.**

# John 1:14

So the Word became human and made his home among us. He was full of unfailing love and faithfulness. And we have seen his glory, the glory of the Father's one and only Son.



# John 1:15

John testified about him when he shouted to the crowds, “This is the one I was talking about when I said, ‘Someone is coming after me who is far greater than I am, for he existed long before me.’”

# John 1:16

From his abundance we have all  
received one gracious blessing after  
another.

# John 1:17

**For the law was given through Moses,  
but God's unfailing love and  
faithfulness came through Jesus  
Christ.**

# John 1:18

No one has ever seen God. But the unique One, who is himself God, is near to the Father's heart. He has revealed God to us.

The background of the image is a dark, starry night sky. A bright, multi-pointed star is positioned at the top center, with a vertical beam of light shining down from it. At the bottom of the image, there is a desert landscape with rolling hills. A long, low building with several lit windows and a central entrance is visible. A group of small figures is gathered in front of the central entrance. The overall scene is illuminated by the star's light and the building's lights.

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“It is impossible for us to maintain our schedule if we are always having to stop and pick up passengers.”





# Principle #1

**Focusing on Christ during the Christmas season means living in light of and sharing with others that Jesus Christ, God in the flesh, is the Savior of all mankind.**

**Genuine belief in the scandal of Christ's: preexistence, descencion, person, work, purpose, miracles, crucifixion, resurrection, and reascension, must be made manifest through our everyday actions.**

# Principle #1

**Focusing on Christ during the Christmas season means living in light of, and sharing with others, that Jesus Christ, God in the flesh, is the Savior of all mankind.**

# Principle #2

**Focusing on Christ during the Christmas season means that we must never forget the main reason for God's arrival in the world in the first place.**

**God chose to descend to earth to rescue all of humanity from its fallen and sin ravaged state. It is in this state, where sin is not a series of bad choices but an endless reality from which sinful, evil, and wicked choices continually flow.**

**Creation itself gives us every reason to believe in an intelligent life force, but since nature sheds no tears for human beings, we could not know until the birth of Jesus Christ that the brilliance of the Creator is love.**

# Principle #2

**Focusing on Christ during the Christmas season means that we must never forget the main reason for God's arrival in the world in the first place.**

# Principle #3

**God's arrival in our world in the form of a baby reminds us that each human being is the result of God's purposeful, creative power. Each of us is willed, each of us is loved, and each of us has purpose.**



**The humble arrival of the Messiah teaches us that everyone's life has great value in and of itself totally apart from what the world thinks of him or her. God loves us even when no one else does.**

# Principle #3

**God's arrival into our world in the form of a baby reminds us that each human being is the result of God's purposeful, creative power. Each of us is willed, each of us is loved, and each of us is necessary.**

# Principle #4

**Focusing on Christ during the Christmas season means that in Jesus Christ, God reveals His face, He reveals His unconditional love, and He reveals that He is Immanuel, God with us.**

# **Principle #5**

**Focusing on Christ during the Christmas season means understanding that the Gospel of Jesus Christ is God's personal, self-spoken invitation regarding humanity's only hope for salvation.**

# Principle #6

**Focusing on Christ during the Christmas season means we must proclaim that Christ alone has the power to forgive sins, to redeem, and to give eternal life (starting today) by grace thru faith.**

# Principle #7

**The way we celebrate the Christmas season often reveals our priorities, our affinities, and what it is we hold most dear.**

**Celebrating the arrival of King Jesus  
in the world by participating in all  
the decorating, festivities, gift giving,  
and caroling of Christmas,  
without believing or obeying Christ,  
is comparable to straightening chairs  
on the Titanic.**

# Principle #7

**The way we celebrate the Christmas season often reveals our priorities, our affinities, and what it is we hold most dear.**



# Part 1

**Are You Focusing On  
CHRIST Or On  
Christmas?**

A night scene with a dark, starry sky. A bright, multi-pointed star is positioned at the top center, casting a powerful, white beam of light down towards a town. The town consists of several white, rectangular buildings with small, glowing windows. The buildings are arranged in a line across the middle ground. In the foreground, there are silhouettes of people standing on a dark, flat surface. The background features dark, rolling hills or mountains under the starry sky.

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