

Listening Guide: *'What's So Special about Christmas?'* #2 OF 4  
December 12, 2021 – 10 : 30 a.m.  
@RoswellStreetBC – Marietta, Ga



### **“New Life” - Mark 5: 1 – 20**

*“What's So Special about Christmas?”* is a relational, non-threatening question to use with family and friends this holiday season. As you present the question, *listen attentively* to answers to care or celebrate with them; *share humbly your story*; & *tell God's story* – maybe use John 3: 16.

In our BIBLE & DEVOTIONAL READING GUIDE, we are imagining how people in the Bible might answer this question. This week we read about:

- Jesus in His boyhood; “Christmas is special for \_\_\_\_\_ to My Father’s will.” – see Luke 2: 49
- The Apostle Paul. “Christmas is special because of \_\_\_\_\_.” - 2 Corinthians 9: 15
- Ones listed in the genealogy of Jesus; “Christmas is special for God’s \_\_\_\_\_” - see Matthew 1: 5 – 6
- Joseph; “Christmas is special for God’s \_\_\_\_\_.” – see Matthew 1: 20
- Man possessed by demons Jesus healed. “Christmas is special for God’s \_\_\_\_\_” - see Mark 5: 1 – 20. This will be the focus of today’s sermon.

As a follower of Jesus, What’s So Special about Christmas?

*“Jesus was born, so that I may be \_\_\_\_\_.”*

*“Jesus’ Life gives me \_\_\_\_\_.”*

As we reflect on Mark 5, **IMAGINE** yourself ‘in’ the Text seeing this Miracle occur; the man delivered from demons by Jesus may answer the question – **WHAT’S SO SPECIAL ABOUT CHRISTMAS?** *“Jesus was born, so I can be born again to NEW LIFE!”*

1. – CHRISTMAS IS SPECIAL because Jesus \_\_\_\_\_ My World.

In What kind of world did this man Live?

- World of \_\_\_\_\_
- World of \_\_\_\_\_
- World of \_\_\_\_\_
- World \_\_\_\_\_

See – John 1: 10, 11 – What kind of World Jesus entered for us.

Reflect on these words : *“Love consists in this: not that we loved God, but that He loved us and sent his Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins.”* 1 John 4: 10; Respond with your heart to His Love that gave first.

2. – CHRISTMAS IS SPECIAL because Jesus \_\_\_\_\_ My World.

Jesus looked passed the DEED to minister to the NEED of this man.

This man’s Testimony – *“Jesus changed My world from ....”*

- Darkness to \_\_\_\_\_ . – see Vs. 15
- Confusion to \_\_\_\_\_ . – see Vs. 15
- Isolation to \_\_\_\_\_ - see Vs. 19
- Insignificance to \_\_\_\_\_ - see Vs. 19

Has Jesus entered & changed your world? What newness has Jesus brought in your life?

*“Jesus, You have given me New \_\_\_\_\_, and I give you praise, Amen!”*

WHO could benefit from you sharing your story of newness?

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**WORKING THE WORD Weekly Challenges –**

- **Read daily the Bible & Devotional Guide** *‘What’s So Special about Christmas?’* Write in a journal thoughts and insights you are gaining and respond with a written prayer.
- **Meditate on depictions of the Manger and the infant Jesus.** Consider how *Jesus was born so that you may be born anew*. Lead your heart to respond to Jesus in worship for the wonder of His entering your world to give you new life.
- **Intentionally & prayerfully seek opportunities to ask others in your daily traffic patterns** – *“What’s So Special about Christmas?”* Listen attentively to their response with care & celebration; *Share humbly your story*; and then *Tell God’s story* (John 3: 16).
- Invite Someone to the **Community Christmas Celebration** this afternoon at 6 p.m.