

## The Making Of The Perfect Gift

### Why Christmas isn't big in the Bible:

- Only **FOUR CHAPTERS** in the Bible focus on **CHRISTMAS**.
- The Bible focuses all of its attention on the **CROSS** not the **CRADLE**.
- If you miss the **CROSS**, you miss the **BOOK**.

### The gift that tells the story:

Exodus 30:22-33, Matthew 2:1-12, Mark 15:22-23, John 19:38-40

### Myrrh was:

- The main **INGREDIENT** of the **ANOINTING OIL**.
- Given to Jesus by the **WISE MEN**.
- Offered to Jesus while **DYING** on the **CROSS**.
- Put on the **BODY OF JESUS** before **BURIAL**.

### What makes a perfect gift?

1. Who it is **FROM**.
2. Long-term **ENJOYMENT** not short-term THRILL.
3. It's better if it's **PERSONAL**.
4. The **COST** or **SCARCITY**.
5. It's the one we **REALLY NEED**.

**Daily Dose:** To receive our short daily devotional video, text the keyword "daily" to 51400.

To subscribe by email or for a free audio or video copy of this message, go to [northcoastchurch.com](http://northcoastchurch.com)

## Food for Thought for the week of December 22, 2019

(Questions and Scriptures for further study)

---

1. As we heard this weekend, the gift of Jesus being born is only the beginning of the greatest story and gift ever given to us. Jesus came to conquer death on the cross so we might live life with purpose on earth and eternally with Him. How do the following verses expand our understanding of the gift Jesus accomplishes today for those who follow Him?

John 10:10 New International Version (NIV)

<sup>10</sup> The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy; I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full.

Mark 10:27 New International Version (NIV)

<sup>27</sup> Jesus looked at them and said, "With man this is impossible, but not with God; all things are possible with God."

John 16:33 New International Version (NIV)

<sup>33</sup> "I have told you these things, so that in me you may have peace. In this world you will have trouble. But take heart! I have overcome the world."

John 15:14-15 New International Version (NIV)

<sup>14</sup> You are my friends if you do what I command. <sup>15</sup> I no longer call you servants, because a servant does not know his master's business. Instead, I have called you friends, for everything that I learned from my Father I have made known to you.

Matthew 5:14-16 New International Version (NIV)

<sup>14</sup> "You are the light of the world. A town built on a hill cannot be hidden. <sup>15</sup> Neither do people light a lamp and put it under a bowl. Instead they put it on its stand, and it gives light to everyone in the house. <sup>16</sup> In the same way, let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven.

Matthew 11:28-30 New International Version (NIV)

<sup>28</sup> "Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest. <sup>29</sup> Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. <sup>30</sup> For my yoke is easy and my burden is light."

John 15:9-11 New International Version (NIV)

<sup>9</sup> "As the Father has loved me, so have I loved you. Now remain in my love. <sup>10</sup> If you keep my commands, you will remain in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commands and remain in his love. <sup>11</sup> I have told you this so that my joy may be in you and that your joy may be complete.

2. Our worship of God is a response to understanding the sacrifice He made through His son, Jesus. When we forget the significance of the sacrifice, we can make our worship more about what we do than what He did. Read Isaiah 53 and jot down anything that encourages you to live a life of worship and obedience to our Creator.

3. As the events of that first Christmas unfolded, we are told that "Mary **treasured** up all these things and **pondered** them in her heart." (Luke 2:19)

In order to see God's work in our lives, we need to take time to ponder God's plan and movement in our lives. Find a few minutes to get away by yourself to reread the Christmas story (Luke 2:1-20) and ask God to help you see His fingerprints in the days and weeks to come.