

The Christmas Story: Receivers and Givers  
Isaiah 9:2-6

Christmas Is About a Gift – “of the Holy One in Our Midst” – Hosea 11:9

The Christmas Story Calls for Believers and Receivers – Jo 1:12; 17:8

- God coming in Person to bring us into His family – Phil 2:6-8; 1 Jo 3:1; 4:2
  - ...He has come for us – Lk 2:10-11
- Christmas teaches us to become receivers – Jo 1:9-14
  - ...This is how grace works – Eph 2:5,8-9
- The promised effects: Is 9:2-6
  - ...A great reversal: from darkness to light – Is 9:2
  - ...A great rejoicing: the gladness of a victory won – Is 9:3
  - ...A great rescue/release: from bondage to freedom – Is 9:4-5

The Christmas Story Calls for Witnesses and Givers – Lk 2:16-20

- The Christian Witness: “Once I was \_\_\_\_\_, now I am \_\_\_\_\_... and I know Who made the difference.” – Is 9:6
  - ...Jesus Christ: the Wonderful, Counselor, the Mighty God, the Eternal Father, the Prince of Peace...
- We see ourselves as His gifts to the world – Jo 17:18; 20:21
  - ...freely we received, freely we give – Matt 10:22
  - ...the wonderful gift of His personal presence... the free gift of His counsel/truth... the hope of a mighty warrior... the invitation into our Father’s family... the peace of Christ upon fear and anxiety – Is 9:6