



Prayer Nuggets

No Room?



Preparation Nugget: *Worship requires me to set priorities.*

It's Christmas and everywhere you look, signs of Jesus can be seen. Yet if we are not careful, we can miss Him in all the activity. I once heard someone say, "I love Christmas, but hate December!" That sort of sums it up, doesn't it? This is a busy time of the year, and sometimes we can neglect (or miss) what it's all about.¹ **When we set our priorities to center around Jesus, we position ourselves to recognize what God is saying and doing in and around us.**

Meditation on the Word: Faith begins where the will of God is known. Before praying, prepare yourself. Allow faith to rise up in your spirit as you meditate on the Word of God.

*"And she brought forth her firstborn son, and wrapped him in swaddling clothes, and laid him in a manger; because **there was no room for them** in the inn." Luke 2:7*

Do you see it? You have to listen closely because it's easy to miss in all the excitement of the story: *"**there was no room for them...**"*

Nugget of Truth: **Growing relationships require prioritizing our time.**

So much was going on. Bethlehem was bustling with activity. So many things to do, so many places to go, so many people to visit, so many errands to run, so many obligations to fulfill, they missed God's greatest gift to the world. They had Him right in their midst and they didn't even know it. In all the activity, they had managed to shut God out.

That night was the giving of God's Son to the world. Jesus was the Gift: promised by God, foretold by the prophets, announced by the angels, sought by the wise men; but those in Bethlehem were too busy to appreciate the blessing of the moment.

"Busyness" had crowded it out. Activity had blinded their eyes. Obligations had dulled their hearing...in all of Bethlehem; **there was no room** for God!

This time of the year was the busiest. Businesses were booming as travelers came in from everywhere. The merchants were unaware that God had arrived in their town. The innkeeper would never believe that he had sent God into the cold. They were all too busy to notice that God was near. Those who missed God's arrival that night missed it not because of evil acts or malice; No, they missed it because they simply weren't looking.

Little has changed in the last 2,000 years, has it? I've seen so many people get so busy doing the work of the ministry, working their business or job, that they lost the freshness of their relationship with God because they became too busy to spend time with Him. Growing relationships requires prioritizing our time. Time is valuable. When we fill it up, we have to ask, "Is this activity valuable to me?" I don't know of anything more valuable than spending time with God. You and I **MUST** feed our spirit. God's Spirit **LIVES** in our spirit. He longs for us to prioritize our time, even in the busy season, to be with Him. "Busyness" has a way of shutting out the important. You can become so caught up in "doing things" that the gift, offered at the moment, is missed and lost and there is **no room** for anything else. This holiday season, honor and worship the Lord by prioritizing your time and making room for Him.

¹ Patti Cote'

Prayer:” Father, I come to you in the name of Jesus, the name above all names! Help me to prioritize my time with you. **Show me how to adjust my schedule to make room for you.** I love you Lord. Amen.”