

Christmas *at* **RIVERSIDE**



“Make Room”

DEC 4, 2022 PASTOR TOM LUNDEEN

MYRC.CHURCH



"Make Room"

Pastor Tom Lundeen

MESSAGE NOTES

_____ is a big part of the Christmas story (note [Luke 2:1-7](#)).
But before pointing fingers at the innkeeper, we need to recognize we also
do this (_____ and as a society).

...why don't I make room for Jesus in my _____/personal life?

1. Our _____ is Elsewhere

One of the characteristics of God is that He is _____
(present everywhere; note [Psalm 139:7-12](#)).

Too often we're not connected/_____ in to the fact Jesus is around us.

Note [John 4:10](#) and [Luke 24:16](#)

Other things become our focus and fill the _____ of our heart...

2. Our Heart is _____

Principle = stuff _____.

Your heart was made for God; but if you've rented out your heart to other
_____, then you won't have room or time for God...

Too many people today think that they can do their own thing and be the
captain of their own _____, only to discover it leads to broken
lives, relationships, disappointments, and _____
(note [1 Corinthians 2:14](#); [Mark 4:19](#); [Deuteronomy 8:14](#)).

3. Our Self-Sufficiency is _____

Actually our biggest problem as human beings is _____
(note [Psalm 10:4](#)).

_____ that pushes God out of first place in my life is an idol/
false god. We need God's power to live life as God purposed for us
(note [Isaiah 53:6](#)).

4. When I Make Room for Jesus...

- A. I get to know my _____ and Savior (note [1 John 1:1-4](#)) - life is better when we live it according to the One who _____.
us. Note [Mathew 1:21](#) and [John 3:16](#). Every person's greatest need is _____
(note [John 1:11-12](#)).
- B. I receive meaning, _____, and strength for my life - you were made for more than money and _____. You were made for meaning and _____ (note [2 Corinthians 6:12-13](#)). But when we make room for Jesus, we can experience His _____.
- C. (note [John 14:27](#)). When we give more and more of the rooms of our lives to Jesus, He gives us the strength we need in every _____ of life (note [2 Timothy 1:7](#)).

So this Christmas season:

- So this Christmas season, how do I make room for Jesus?
- _____ Him in.
- Open the doors of your life to Him (note [Psalm 37:5](#)).
- Say 'YES!' to Him as Lord.
- Open _____ room.

Tell someone about the next step you took today in your spiritual journey! Let us know, too, and fill out our connect card (digital* or hard copy).

*MYRC.LINK/CONNECT or text **riverside** to **94000**



SMALL GROUP
guide on the back

SG

Your group matters.

DISCUSSION GUIDE

- Icebreaker -

What is your favorite (or least favorite) Christmas cookie and why?

1. Like the innkeeper, we've all missed opportunities. Share a time when you missed out on a great opportunity, and how you felt when you realized you had missed it?
2. Read [John 4:10](#) and [Luke 24:16](#). These verses describe people who missed Jesus when He was standing right in front of them. When have you missed Jesus speaking or working in your life and what in your life made that possible?
3. [Mark 4:19](#) illustrates what Pastor Tom described as renting out the rooms of our life to "other boarders". What "other boarders" are filling the rooms of your life and what evictions do you need to make to create room for Jesus?
4. Pastor Tom spoke of how our desire to be "captain of our own destiny" leads to disappointment and brokenness. How has this statement been proven true in your own life and how have you responded?
5. When we make room for Jesus, He brings His peace into our lives. How have you experienced the peace of Christ and what would you tell someone in crisis if they asked you about your hope and peace?

Day One: [Psalm 35](#)

Day Two: [Proverbs 4](#)

Day Three: [Judges 11](#)

Day Four: [Isaiah 35](#)

Day Five: [Acts 7](#)

This Personal Guide has been adapted from Professor Grant Horner's Bible Reading System.

PERSONAL GUIDE



"Make Room"

Pastor Tom Lundeen

MESSAGE NOTES

No room is a big part of the Christmas story (note [Luke 2:1-7](#)). But before pointing fingers at the innkeeper, we need to recognize we also do this (individually and as a society).

...why don't I make room for Jesus in my daily/personal life?

1. Our Focus is Elsewhere

One of the characteristics of God is that He is omnipresent (present everywhere; note [Psalm 139:7-12](#)).

Too often we're not connected/tuned in to the fact Jesus is around us.

Note [John 4:10](#) and [Luke 24:16](#)

Other things become our focus and fill the inn of our heart...

2. Our Heart is Overcrowded

Principle = stuff accumulates.

Your heart was made for God; but if you've rented out your heart to other boarders, then you won't have room or time for God...

Too many people today think that they can do their own thing and be the captain of their own destiny, only to discover it leads to broken lives, relationships, disappointments, and emptiness (note [1 Corinthians 2:14](#); [Mark 4:19](#); [Deuteronomy 8:14](#)).

3. Our Self-Sufficiency is Overrated

Actually our biggest problem as human beings is pride (note [Psalm 10:4](#)). Anything that pushes God out of first place in my life is an idol/false god. We need God's power to live life as God purposed for us (note [Isaiah 53:6](#)).

4. When I Make Room for Jesus...

- A. I get to know my Creator and Savior (note [1 John 1:1-4](#)) - life is better when we live it according to the One who designed us. Note [Mathew 1:21](#) and [John 3:16](#). Every person's greatest need is forgiveness (note [John 1:11-12](#)).
- B. I receive meaning, peace, and strength for my life - you were made for more than money and success. You were made for meaning and significance (note [2 Corinthians 6:12-13](#)). But when we make room for Jesus, we can experience His peace...(note [John 14:27](#)). When we give more and more of the rooms of our lives to Jesus, He gives us the strength we need in every circumstance of life (note [2 Timothy 1:7](#)).

So this Christmas season:

- So this Christmas season, how do I make room for Jesus?
- Invite Him in.
- Open the doors of your life to Him (note [Psalm 37:5](#)).
- Say 'YES!' to Him as Lord.
- Open every room.

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