



LIFE AFTER CHRISTMAS

Luke 2:17-20

Luke 2:19, “But Mary treasured up all these things and pondered them in her heart.”

Treasured: to keep in one’s self, to guard, to preserve a thing from perishing or being lost.

C.S. Lewis, “We don’t need to be told new ideas so much as we need to be reminded of old truths.”

Pondered: to bring together in one’s mind, confer with one’s self

Psalm 119:10-11, With my whole heart I have sought You; Oh, let me not wander from Your commandments! Your word I have hidden in my heart, that I might not sin against You.”

Psalm 119:10-11, The Message, “I’m single-minded in pursuit of you; don’t let me miss the road signs you’ve posted. I’ve banked your promises in the vault of my heart so I won’t sin myself bankrupt.”

Learn from Mary’s example:

- Take time to treasure the words, thoughts, and moments God has given you.
- Ask God to show you the bigger picture. Give yourself time to pull back from the situation and look at God’s handiwork.

THOUGHTS/QUESTIONS

HOW TO DIG DEEPER

- Join a Missional Community group to build encouraging relationships and grow in God.
- Sign up for a daily devotional email to get further help in your journey with Christ.
- Use the verses below as a prompt for your prayer time with God. Circle words or phrase that “jump off the page.” What do they mean and how do they apply to you? Where do you see God in the verse? Where do you see yourself in the verse?

DAY ONE: Examine Yourself

2 Corinthians 13:5, “Examine yourselves to see whether you are in the faith; test yourselves. Do you not realize that Christ Jesus is in you-unless, of course, you fail the test?”

DAY TWO: Growing Fruit

Galatians 5:22-23, “But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, forbearance, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control. Against such things there is no law.”

DAY THREE: The Benefit of Obedience

James 1:22-23, “ Do not merely listen to the word, and so deceive yourselves. Do what it says.”

DAY FOUR: Renewing Your Mind

Romans 12:2, “Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God’s will is-His good, pleasing, and perfect will.”

DAY FIVE: Examining Others

Matthew 7:3-5, “Why do you look at the speck of sawdust in your brother’s eye and pay no attention to the plank in your own eye? How can you say to your brother, ‘Let me take the speck out of your eye,’ when all the time there is a plank in your own eye? You hypocrite, first take the plank out of your own eye, and then you will see clearly to remove the speck from your brother’s eye.”

WHAT’S COMING UP

New Year Worship Gathering (Sunday, January 2, 10:00am)

Celebrate the New Year with us as we gather in worship and the word.

Grocery Giveaway (Wednesday, January 5, 5:00pm-6:00pm)

We are continuing to care for our community through our grocery giveaway outreach. Join us as we serve the residents of Meramec Place Apartments (69 Cheryl Lane in Valley Park).