

# **SERIES: GRATITUDE & BLESSINGS**

**DATE:** Saturday, Christmas Eve, December 24, 2022

**SERMON:** The Wonderful Words of Christmas: *Hope*

**SCRIPTURE:** Luke 2:1-7

## **Luke 2:1-7**

[1] In those days Caesar Augustus issued a decree that a census should be taken of the entire Roman world.

[2] (This was the first census that took place while Quirinius was governor of Syria.)

[3] And everyone went to their own town to register.

[4] So Joseph also went up from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to Bethlehem the town of David, because he belonged to the house and line of David.

[5] He went there to register with Mary, who was pledged to be married to him and was expecting a child.

[6] While they were there, the time came for the baby to be born,

[7] and she gave birth to her firstborn, a son. She wrapped him in cloths and placed him in a manger, because there was no guest room available for them.

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## ***What does “hope” mean?***

1. Knowing God is \_\_\_\_\_.

2. Knowing you are \_\_\_\_\_.

3. Knowing \_\_\_\_\_.

4. Knowing life \_\_\_\_\_.

- **Romans 8:28** *And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose.*
- **Philippians 1:12-14** *Now I want you to know, brothers and sisters, that what has happened to me has actually served to advance the gospel. As a result, it has become clear throughout the whole palace guard and to everyone else that I am in chains for Christ. And because of my chains, most of the brothers and sisters have become confident in the Lord and dare all the more to proclaim the gospel without fear.*

5. Knowing that God has a \_\_\_\_\_.

# Lagniappe

## **Merry Christmas & Happy New Year . . .**

I want to welcome you to our *Christmas Eve Service* and wish you a *Very Merry Christmas*. May God bless you and yours in this very special and hopeful time.

The following are opportunities in the new year for you to get a new and fresh start in your relationship with God:

- ❖ **Tomorrow, Christmas Day**, we will have one service at 10 AM. It will be completely different than our service today. My sermon today is about *hope* and tomorrow it will be about *joy*.
- ❖ **Sunday, January 1** we will have our regular two Sunday morning services at 9:30 and 11 o'clock. We will not have Connect groups meeting that day.
  - We also will have baptism in both services. There are a number of people who are signed up. If you would like to do so as well, please go to our website and leave us a message under "connect with us." We will need your phone number so that we can get back with you. What a great way to begin the new year!
- ❖ **Wednesday night, January 4** will be the restart of our groups and meetings. We hope you will get off to a fast start in the new year.
- ❖ **Sunday, January 8** we welcome Frank Turek to lead both worship services. Frank is one of the foremost leaders in the field of Christian Apologetics (giving a reason for the hope we have in Christ). This should be a time when you invite family and friends to join with you for worship.
  - Also, this will be when we kick our connect groups off again. The new year is a wonderful time for you to get involved, if you need help with that, email [groups@fbccov.org](mailto:groups@fbccov.org) and we will be happy to assist you.
- ❖ **Sunday, January 15** will begin our new sermon series concerning being people after God's own heart. At the conclusion of each service, we will pray over our three newly serving deacons and ask God's blessings upon them and their families.
  - *Scott Ritter* will be ordained as a deacon, *Daniel Lombardo* and *Scot Martin* will begin their service as deacons of First Baptist Church Covington.

As you can tell, we have a lot happening very soon. May God bless us all as we seek to live for Him.

