



## ***Understanding Christmas***

*Dennis & Sara Williams – The Navigators U.S. Metro Ministries Detroit*



The angels announced the birth of the Lord Jesus by saying to the shepherds "...for to you is born this day in the city of David a **Savior**, who is Christ the Lord." (Luke 2:11) Why did the angels call the Lord Jesus our **Savior**? This Christmas, may we encourage you to take some time and reflex on the list below as to what God has given us in Christ? The list is wonderful news, good news that touches every area of life. May God bless you this Christmas season.

### **Power & strength when I'm feeling weak...**

"I can do all things through him who strengthens me." (Philippians 4:13)

### **Hope when I'm feeling despair...**

"For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord." (Romans 6:23)

"For a child will be born to us, a Son will be given to us; And the government will rest on His shoulders; And His name will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Eternal Father, Prince of Peace." (Isaiah 9:6)

### **Peace when I'm troubled...**

"I have said these things to you, that in me you may have peace. In the world you will have tribulation. But take heart; I have overcome the world." (John 16:33)

### **Calm when I'm struggling...**

"Come to me, all who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest." (Matthew 11:28)

### **Joy when life is hard...**

"Until now you have asked nothing in my name. Ask, and you will receive, that your joy may be full." (John 16:24)

### **Comfort when I'm hurting...**

"Now may our Lord Jesus Christ himself, and God our Father, who loved us and gave us eternal comfort and good hope through grace, comfort your hearts and establish them in every good work and word." (2 Thessalonians 2:16-17)

### **Light when I'm in darkness...**

"Again Jesus spoke to them, saying, "I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will not walk in darkness, but will have the light of life." (John 8:12)

### **Eternal life when I'm facing death...**

"Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life. Whoever believes in me, though he die, yet shall he live, and everyone who lives and believes in me shall never die..." (John 11:25-26)

"And this is the testimony, that God gave us eternal life, and this life is in his Son. Whoever has the Son has life; whoever does not have the Son of God does not have life. I write these things to you who believe in the name of the Son of God that you may know that you have eternal life." (1 John 5:11-13)

**Forgiveness when I'm feeling shame & guilt...**

“For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish, but have eternal life. For God did not send the Son into the world to judge the world, but that the world might be saved through Him.” (John 3:16-17)

“There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus.” (Romans 8:1)

**Love when I'm feeling rejected...**

“But God shows his love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.”  
(Romans 5:8)

“By this the love of God was manifested in us, that God has sent His only begotten Son into the world so that we might live through Him. In this is love, not that we loved God, but that He loved us and sent His Son to be the propitiation for our sins.” (1 John 4:9-10)

**Freedom when I'm feeling in bondage...**

“The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he has anointed me to proclaim good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim liberty to the captives and recovering of sight to the blind, to set at liberty those who are oppressed.” (Luke 4:18)

**Meaning when I'm feeling like life is empty...**

“Jesus said to them, “I am the bread of life; whoever comes to me shall not hunger, and whoever believes in me shall never thirst.” (John 6:35)

**Life when I'm feeling unfulfilled...**

“The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have life and have it abundantly.” (John 10:10)

**Healing when I'm feeling broken...**

“Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old has passed away; behold, the new has come.” (2 Corinthians 5:17)

**Righteousness when I'm feeling condemned...**

“If, because of one man's trespass, death reigned through that one man, much more will those who receive the abundance of grace and the free gift of righteousness reign in life through the one man Jesus Christ.” (Romans 5:17)

