

Listen for Direction Christmas Stories – Part 4

Life Church St. Louis – December 30, 2018

Lead Pastor – Dr. Dan Walker

Message Videos – www.lcstl.org/messages

Proverbs 4:18 (ESV) But the path of the righteous is like the light of dawn, which shines brighter and brighter until full day.

Philippians 3:13b-14 (ESV) But one thing I do: forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead, I press on toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus.

James 1:5 (ESV) If any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask God, who gives generously to all without reproach, and it will be given him.

1. Listen for _____ to build

Matthew 1:20 (ESV) But as he considered these things, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream, saying, “Joseph, son of David, do not fear to take Mary as your wife, for that which is conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit.

1A. _____ to strengthen

Ephesians 5:33 (ESV) However, let each one of you love his wife as himself, and let the wife see that she respects her husband.

1B. _____ to teach

Deuteronomy 6:7 (ESV) You shall teach them [God’s commands] diligently to your children, and shall talk of them when you sit in your house, and when you walk by the way, and when you lie down, and when you rise.

1C. _____ to love

1 Peter 3:15 (ESV) but in your hearts honor Christ the Lord as holy, always being prepared to make a defense to anyone who asks you for a reason for the hope that is in you; yet do it with gentleness and respect,

2. Listen for _____ to avoid

Matthew 2:13 (ESV) Now when they had departed, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream and said, “Rise, take the child and his

mother, and flee to Egypt, and remain there until I tell you, for Herod is about to search for the child, to destroy him.”

2A. _____ hazards

1 Corinthians 6:19-20 (ESV) Or do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit within you, whom you have from God? You are not your own, for you were bought with a price. So glorify God in your body.

2B. _____ to pass up

1 Corinthians 15:33 (ESV) Do not be deceived: “Bad company ruins good morals.”

2C. _____ to eliminate

Psalms 101:2b-3 (ESV) I will walk with integrity of heart within my house; I will not set before my eyes anything that is worthless. I hate the work of those who fall away; it shall not cling to me.

3. Listen for _____ to embrace

Matthew 2:19-20 (ESV) But when Herod died, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared in a dream to Joseph in Egypt, saying, “Rise, take the child and his mother and go to the land of Israel, for those who sought the child’s life are dead.”

3A. Daily _____ with God

Matthew 4:4 (ESV) But he answered, “It is written, “Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes from the mouth of God.”

3B. Weekly _____ for God

Hebrews 10:25 (ESV) not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the Day drawing near.

Action Plan for This Week

Have a daily quiet time of Bible reading & prayer.
 Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat Sun

Invite a friend to the service next Sunday.

How will I obey God’s Word this week? _____

Listen for Direction Study Guide

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Intro. What do you think Proverbs 4:18 means for your future?

Why is it important to forget the past and press on toward God's future for you (Philippians 3:13b-14)

What has been your experience with New Year's resolutions?

How can the promise of James 1:5 help you with planning for the New Year?

1A. Why was it important for Joseph to marry Mary (Matthew 1:20)?

1B. How are the commands in Ephesians 5:33 essential to strengthen a marriage?

1C. What is a parent's responsibility toward their children according to Deuteronomy 6:7?

1D. How can you be prepared to be a witness to the lost (1 Peter 3:15)?

2A. How did God protect Jesus from danger (Matthew 2:13)?

2B. What are dangers to avoid with respect to our physical bodies (1 Corinthians 6:19-20)?

2C. What would be the characteristics of bad company (1 Corinthians 15:33)?

2D. What kinds of television and internet entertainment should a believer eliminate (Psalm 101:2b-3)?

3A. What does the repeated direction that God gave Joseph tell us about God's plans for our lives (Matthew 2:19-20)?

3B. Why is it essential for a believer to spend daily time in God's Word and prayer (Matthew 4:4)?

3C. Why is there a disturbing trend in America of people attending church less regularly (Hebrews 10:25)?

3D. What are the benefits in regularly attending Sunday worship and a small group Bible study?

3E. Which of these directions from God's Word do you intend to focus on this New Year?