CROSSROADS COMMUNITY CHURCH

"STOP"

CHRISTMAS REWIND

Ron Langford

LUKE 4:42 (NIV) At daybreak Jesus went out to a solitary place. The people were looking for him and when they came to where he was, they tried to keep him from leaving them.

PS. 46:10 (NIV) Be still , and know that I am God

EPH. 3:20 (LB) Now glory be to God, who by his mighty power at work within us is able to do far more than we would ever dare to ask or even dream of-infinitely beyond our highest prayers, desires, thoughts, or hopes.

PUTTING ON THE BRAKES

S _____ Your Expectations

PROV. 13:12 (NIV) Hope deferred makes the heart sick

PS. 5:3 (NIV) In the morning, O LORD, you hear my voice; in the morning I lay my requests before you and wait in expectation.

T _____ Time for The Best

JER. 29:11 (NIV) For I know the plans I have for you," declares the LORD, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.

PS. 90:12 (NLT) Teach us to make the most of our time, so that we may grow in wisdom.

O _____ Out of The Rest

1 COR. 10:23-24 (MSG) Because of God's immense generosity and grace, we don't have to dissect and scrutinize every action to see if it will pass muster." But the point is not to just get by. We want to live well, but our foremost efforts should be to help others live well.

P _____ Jesus at the Center

ISA. 59:2 (NLT) But there is a problem — your sins have cut you off from God.

ROM. 6:23a (NIV) For the wages of sin is death…

ROM. 6:23b (NIV) …but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

1 COR. 11:23-26 (NLT) The Master, Jesus, on the night of his betrayal, took bread. Having given thanks, he broke it and said, This is my body, broken for you. Do this to remember me.

After supper, he did the same thing with the cup: This cup is my blood, my new covenant with you. Each time you drink this cup, remember me.

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Digging Deeper: Small Group Questions …

1. Share one of your favorite Christmas memories.
2. When you think of Christmas, what are some images that come to mind?
3. Is it challenging for you to STOP and be still? Why do you think that is?
4. Tell about a Christmas you may remember that left you feeling disappointed or sad.
5. Share one expectation you have for Christmas this year.
6. What adjustments will you need to make to see that expectation become a reality?
7. What's one practical way that you can put Christ back at the center of Christmas this year?