



SERMON NOTES

How Could That Happen?

CHRISTMAS EVE

Pastor Carl Toti - December 24, 2018

Luke 2:1-7 (NKJV)

1 And it came to pass in those days that a decree went out from Caesar Augustus that all the world should be registered. 2 This census first took place while Quirinius was governing Syria. 3 So all went to be registered, everyone to his own city. 4 Joseph also went up from Galilee, out of the city of Nazareth, into Judea, to the city of David, which is called Bethlehem, because he was of the house and lineage of David, 5 to be registered with Mary, his betrothed wife, who was with child. 6 So it was, that while they were there, the days were completed for her to be delivered. 7 And she brought forth her firstborn Son, and wrapped Him in swaddling cloths, and laid Him in a manger, because there was no room for them in the inn.

When people ask you, "how are you doing," we used to answer "fine." Now its "I'm really busy." Think of all the commercials and advertisements enticing you to take vacation, cruise etc.

1) Crazy _____

People are too busy to develop meaningful and authentic relationships. You can't rush friendships!! With God or others for that matter.

This description may or may not fit you, but think of it in light of the words from our text, "there was no room..."

2) Making _____ for God

A daily retreat into prayer and Bible reading is important.

Matthew 6:6 (NLT)

6 But when you pray, go away by yourself, shut the door behind you, and pray to your Father in private. Then your Father, who sees everything, will reward you.

BUT THIS ISN'T A ONE SIZE FITS ALL

"that time of business does not with me differ from the time of prayer, and in the noise and clatter of my kitchen, while several persons are at the same time calling for different things, I enjoy God in as great tranquility as if I were upon my knees at the blessed sacrament."

Brother Lawrence

3) God Makes _____ for You

The Lord in His kindness shows up in so many unexpected ways throughout our day.

The conscious place we make for God in our lives, at its best, gives us the eyes of faith to recognize his interruptions in our schedules.

4) God Makes _____ for You

Heaven always has vacancies...plenty of room to join God's family.

Answers:

- 1) *Busy*
- 2) *Room*
- 3) *Time*
- 4) *Room*