

## Welcoming the Wonder of God

For the week of Dec. 16, 2018

Full message available at [highpoint.church/currentseries](http://highpoint.church/currentseries)

**GOAL:** Unwrap the theology of Christmas by answering who our wonder is and how and why we can welcome Him into our lives.

### GET GOING:

**1.** Read John 1:1-14. As Pastor Ron told us, we use words to describe ourselves (our personalities, our appearance, our likes/dislikes, etc.) — and the apostle John used words to describe Jesus in this passage.

First, in two or three words, describe yourself. (Don't make this hard, just say something fast—and laugh a lot with each other!)

Now, using John 1:1-14, throw out a list of descriptive words about Jesus. Someone record the list and review the words after everyone has contributed.

**2.** As Pastor Ron said, we can see how “God is the one who welcomes us into His home. Therefore we need to welcome Him into ours.” What do you want this to look like in your home?

**3.** Pastor Ron challenged us to welcome the wonder of the Lord Jesus into our lives in four ways: “Eternity starts now in this instant, in this moment. Together, let's 1) seek Him, and 2) surrender to Him personally, and 3) submit ourselves to His hand, and 4) serve Him faithfully, with joy.”

Which one of those four do you sense the Lord prompting a response from you?

- Do you need to seek Him?—Read Matthew 6:33.
- Do you need to surrender something to Him?— Read 1 Peter 2:23; 4:19.
- Do you need to submit yourself to God on some point of conflict?

Read James 4:7.

- Do you remember Psalm 100:2 from last week? Serve the Lord with gladness. How can you do that this week?



## KEEP GROWING:

**4.** Theologians tell us that God exists in three persons, otherwise known as the Trinity: God the Father, Jesus the Son, and the Holy Spirit. Some describe the concept of the Trinity like water: water, steam, ice. Others have described the Trinity in terms of roles. Others have pictured an egg: shell, yolk, white.

John Wesley said, “Bring me a worm that can comprehend man, and I’ll show you a man that can comprehend the triune God.” How does the concept of the Trinity—all three Persons involved in your life as a child of God—cause wonder in your soul? What questions does it stir in you? How do these questions stir faith in you? What do you wish you knew?

**5.** Share with each other the most amazing, most breathtaking, most favorite place on Earth. Think back to the first time you saw it—what about it took your breath away? (Was it—beauty? power? uniqueness? creativity?)

Now re-read John 1:3-4, “All things were made through Him and without Him not anything would have been made.” Pastor Ron said, “Think about that—all things. Jesus is not only the architect, but the builder, the manufacturer, He is the Creator. That’s why we are called to welcome Him.” Have you ever thought about Jesus Christ as the Creator?

Read Colossians 1:15-17. Share your observations and/or comments about these two passages. How does this make you think about your relationship with Jesus differently?

**6.** Read John 1:4-12 with a special eye for how Jesus is described as “the Light.”

What is this darkness? How does God’s light pierce it?

How are the children of God like John the Baptist? How can we reflect His light? (v.12)

**7.** In this beautiful Christmas season, we decorate our homes with lights. How does this passage add a new dimension to your celebration now that you can connect it with this passage? What message would you like to send to your family, friends, and neighbors?



**Bonus Challenge:** How do we welcome the light into our life? Romans 1:16 says, “For I am not ashamed of the gospel, for it is the power of God for salvation to everyone who believes.” Ask the Lord to give you the opportunity to welcome Him into one of your conversations this week. It could be someone who needs to hear about the power of God to change their destiny—and maybe because of a crisis they’re finally ready to listen. Or maybe a brother or sister in Christ needs to be reminded that God wants to work in his or her life, too. This week, are you willing for God to use you to share the wonder of Jesus’ light and life within you with someone who needs to hear?

**Memory Verse:** *“All things were made through him, and without him was not any thing made that was made. In him was life, and the life was the light of men” (John 1:3-4).*

