



The Perfect Christmas

SUNDAYS 9 & 10:45 AM
NOVEMBER 26-DECEMBER 10

12.10.17

CRAIG REES

THE AWKWARD CHRISTMAS CARD

Discussion Questions

BOTTOM LINE:

THE GAP BETWEEN OUR
IMPERFECTION AND GOD'S
PERFECTION IS BRIDGED NOT
THROUGH ANY EXPLANATION
OF OUR SIN BUT GOD'S
DEMONSTRATION OF HIS LOVE.

KEY VERSES:

MATTHEW 1:6-11; 2

SAMUEL 11

SAMUEL 12

ROMANS 6:23

1. What was your major takeaway from the message this morning?
2. What is the most awkward Christmas gathering that you are willing to share? What made it awkward (and it's usually the presence of some interesting people)?
3. The topic of personal sin and public office is a relevant theme. Looking at 2 Samuel 11:1-5 and 12:26-31, what do we learn from David's private act of taking someone that didn't belong to him (11:1-5) and his public act of taking a city that actually belonged to his army (12:26-31)? In what ways do private issues become public and what can we do to stop that?
4. We aren't told that much about Bathsheba which leads many to 'plug the gaps'. How common, in your experience, is it for Christians to plug the gaps in a 'juicy story' rather than be content with the facts? What damage does embellishing a story do?
5. When David was confronted with his sin he responded in repentance and his life was spared (2 Samuel 12:13). In your experience, what leads us to feel the need to explain, justify or assign blame when we do wrong? Why is it so hard to allow God to love us perfectly, as imperfect as we are?
6. "This God has an amazing capacity to work more life at the border of death, to act in promise-keeping ways just when the promise seems exhausted" (W. Bruggeman). How can you encourage someone to hold on to God's promises even when hope seems lost?
7. Even in the dark moments of grief and death, God was preparing David for what He had prepared for David: Solomon. Can you share of a time when God was preparing you for what He had prepared you for?



DISCUSS THESE QUESTIONS IN COMMUNITY

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