

Sermon Title: What do you expect from God?

I want to start with a question - what do you think is the one thing that affects your happiness the most?

Someone smarter than me once said, "your happiness is directly tied to your expectations."

I read an article this week that said "The coming of the Messiah was the most expected event in Jewish history, but the way Jesus was born was the most unexpected way that it could have happened."

Mark 10:13-16

Jesus shows us how we are to receive kids, and he tells us, "let the little children come to me."

That is what Jesus is teaching us in this passage, that kids are important to Him, and that we need to have faith like a little child and believe to a point that it changes our behavior.

What does O Little Town of Bethlehem have to teach us?

Verse 1 - as the people of Bethlehem all slept in darkness, the light of the world came down among them.

Verse 2 - what took place in the heavenly realms that Silent Night so long ago.

Last Verse - instead of telling the story of what happened so long ago, the author decided that the last verse should be about what Jesus does today.

Each year we get caught up in the Christmas Spirit, and hopefully that points us to Jesus Christ, who takes away our sin and abides in us through the Holy Spirit

Some Closing Questions –

- 1) Does Jesus Christ live inside of your heart today?
- 2) How is your happiness level with God right now?
- 3) What do we all expect from God?
- 4) Are you willing to change your expectations of God?

Challenge - to have healthy expectations about God, about his love for you, and to do what we can to bring little children closer to God instead of keeping them apart.

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Challenge - to have _____ about God, about his love for you, and to do what we can to bring little children closer to God instead of keeping them apart.