Pastor Jesse Giglio
December 18, 2011

the present

Please use the space below to take notes on today's message:

Take It Homework

We encourage you to not only doing these exercises on your own, but also with a group of friends, co-workers, neighbors, small group or family members.

What's your favorite Christmas memory?

Do you recognize any longstanding family traditions?

Is Christmas a time you look forward to or is it something you can't wait to get over? Or maybe a little of both?

The title "LORD" was also used by Roman Emperors who were incidentally often declared gods. How could this idea play out in the reactions of the original hearer?

How do you think you would have reacted upon hearing of the birth of Jesus in the original context?

> **"For You have formed us for Yourself, and our hearts are restless until we find rest in You."**

What does finding rest in God mean to you?

Do you most often think of God as someone who's approachable or someone to be feared?

Jesus not only came that He might die for us but that He would live with us. What does that say about the character of God?

Do you believe your presence in the world is valuable not just to God but to the world itself?

Is being distracted from God and/or the people around you something you struggle with? If so, how can you begin to live more "present"?

God was pleased to have all His fullness dwell in Jesus.

Where does joy rank in your emotions this time of year?

Have you ever found yourself being a scrooge? If so, why do you think that is?

What actions can you implement to avoid a "just get through the season" mentality this Christmas?

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