



A Christmas Carol

Sunday, December 13, 2020

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Stepping Stones Community Church

1. Ebenezer Scrooge - Before

- He cared more for money than people
- He didn't consider the consequences of his life and his actions

¹⁷ With the Lord's authority I say this: Live no longer as the Gentiles do, for they are hopelessly confused. ¹⁸ Their minds are full of darkness; they wander far from the life God gives because they have closed their minds and hardened their hearts against him. ¹⁹ They have no sense of shame. They live for lustful pleasure and eagerly practice every kind of impurity. **Ephesians 4:17-19 NLT**

²¹ Since you have heard about Jesus and have learned the truth that comes from him, ²² throw off your old sinful nature and your former way of life, which is corrupted by lust and deception. ²³ Instead, let the Spirit renew your thoughts and attitudes. ²⁴ Put on your new nature, created to be like God—truly righteous and holy. **Ephesians 4:21-24 NLT**

2. Ebenezer Scrooge - After

- He realized he was an evil man
- His heart was changed
- His life was changed

⁶⁸ "Praise the Lord, the God of Israel, because he has visited and redeemed his people. ⁶⁹ He has sent us a mighty Savior from the royal line of his servant David, ⁷⁰ just as he promised through his holy prophets long ago... ⁷⁶ "And you, my little son, will be called the prophet of the Most High, because you will prepare the way for the Lord. ⁷⁷ You will tell his people how to find salvation through forgiveness of their sins. ⁷⁸ Because of God's tender mercy, the morning light from heaven is about to break upon us, ⁷⁹ to give light to those who sit in darkness and in the shadow of death, and to guide us to the path of peace." **Luke 1:68-70, 76-79 NLT**

¹⁵ Do not love this world nor the things it offers you, for when you love the world, you do not have the love of the Father in you. ¹⁶ For the world offers only a craving for physical pleasure, a craving for everything we see, and pride in our achievements and possessions. These are not from the Father, but are from this world. ¹⁷ And this world is fading away, along with everything that people crave. But anyone who does what pleases God will live forever.

1 John 2: 15-17 NLT

Next Steps:

- Commit to live my life by doing what pleases God
- Consider what I can do this week to help others in need (spiritual, financial, emotional) _____
- Examine my life and actions. I believe God wants me to change _____
- _____