

JESUS: THE INDESCRIBABLE GIFT

Jesus: The Gift of God's Truth

Twelve Daily Studies for Christmas

John 1:14–18; 8:31–32; 14:1–6

SEARCHING THE SCRIPTURES

STUDY

DAY 5

Chaplain of the Kansas Senate Fred Holloman was known for his plain-spoken manner and unpretentious invocations when he opened senate sessions. In his book, *Disciplines of a Godly Man*, author Kent Hughes recalls this simple prayer for God's help in discerning truth.

Omniscient Father:
Help us to know who is telling
the truth. One side tells us one
thing, and the other just the opposite.
And if neither side is telling the truth, we would like to know
that, too.
And if each side is telling half the truth,
give us the wisdom to put the right halves
together.
In Jesus' name, Amen.¹

Thankfully, we never need to pray for divine discernment when listening to Jesus speak. With Jesus, there was no half-truth, political spin, or rhetorical sleight of hand. Every word He uttered was true, which means we can *trust* His teaching in His word. That's a good thing because our future depends on it!



PREPARE YOUR HEART

Today's study pulls back the veil of the original home of the baby whose birth we celebrate at Christmas. Jesus promised that His home one day will be our home too. As you open God's Word, invite the Lord to reveal His truth to you. Write a brief prayer asking the Lord to open your eyes to His marvelous plan and encourage you today.

Quotable

*Jesus was in
a category by
Himself. He
never left a false
impression. Never
tried to appear
as someone He
wasn't. He was the
personification of
the truth.*

— Charles R. Swindoll



www.insight.org | www.insightworld.org

Copyright © 2017, 2018 by Charles R. Swindoll, Inc. All rights are reserved worldwide.
Duplication of copyrighted material for commercial use is strictly prohibited.

Committed to Excellence in Communicating Biblical Truth and Its Application

JESUS: THE INDESCRIBABLE GIFT

Jesus: The Gift of God's Truth

Twelve Daily Studies for Christmas

John 1:14–18; 8:31–32; 14:1–6

SEARCHING THE SCRIPTURES

STUDY



TURN TO THE SCRIPTURES

The night before Jesus went to the cross, Jesus focused His teaching on the truths that would sustain His disciples and give them courage after He was gone. Read John 14:1–4 and see how many commands and promises you can find. Mark them with the PDF highlight tool, or print the page and underline them.

“Don’t let your hearts be troubled. Trust in God, and trust also in me. There is more than enough room in my Father’s home. If this were not so, would I have told you that I am going to prepare a place for you? When everything is ready, I will come and get you, so that you will always be with me where I am. And you know the way to where I am going.”

What promise is the central point of this passage?



Observation: Truth about the Future

Chuck Swindoll’s four-step Bible study method begins with observation. Observation requires that we slowly examine what the text says, reading the lines rather than reading “between the lines.”

As the personification of truth, Jesus made four true statements. First, what did He say about heaven in John 14:2?

Second, what did He say that He was going to do (John 14:2)?



www.insight.org | www.insightworld.org

Copyright © 2017, 2018 by Charles R. Swindoll, Inc. All rights are reserved worldwide.

Duplication of copyrighted material for commercial use is strictly prohibited.

Committed to Excellence in Communicating Biblical Truth and Its Application

JESUS: THE INDESCRIBABLE GIFT

Jesus: The Gift of God's Truth

Twelve Daily Studies for Christmas

John 1:14–18; 8:31–32; 14:1–6

SEARCHING
THE
SCRIPTURES

STUDY

Third, what did He say He will do “when everything is ready” (John 14:3)?

Finally, note the phrase in John 14:3, “so that,” which indicates Christ’s objective, purpose, or reason. According to Jesus, *why* is He preparing a place for us in His Father’s home?



Interpretation and Correlation: Truths We Can Trust

The methods of interpretation and correlation help us understand the meaning of a text in context, compared to similar passages. What is the context of Jesus’ teaching about heaven according to John 13:1, 31–33?

The disciples’ hearts were troubled . . . understandably so! Jesus had just told them He would remain with them only a little while longer, and where He was going, they could not follow. To calm their fears, Jesus told His disciples to trust Him (John 14:1). Read the following verses and write down the basis for the disciples’ trust.



www.insight.org | www.insightworld.org

Copyright © 2017, 2018 by Charles R. Swindoll, Inc. All rights are reserved worldwide.
Duplication of copyrighted material for commercial use is strictly prohibited.

Committed to Excellence in Communicating Biblical Truth and Its Application

S05
3

JESUS: THE INDESCRIBABLE GIFT

Jesus: The Gift of God's Truth

Twelve Daily Studies for Christmas

John 1:14–18; 8:31–32; 14:1–6

SEARCHING
THE
SCRIPTURES

STUDY

John 7:16–18

John 8:31–32, 51

Our trust in Jesus is based on His trustworthiness. He never spoke anything that wasn't true, nor did He promise anything He could not fulfill.



Application: Trusting When We're Troubled

Are you feeling troubled during this Christmas season? The holidays can cause our deepest fears to surface when pressures increase in the family or at work. And for those who've lost someone close, songs of joy and love only heighten feelings of grief and loneliness.

The same baby Jesus who nestled in Mary's arms calls us to infant-like trust in Him. For what troubles do you need to trust your Savior this Christmas? List them below, and write a prayer of faith as you entrust your life into His care . . . both now and in the future.



www.insight.org | www.insightworld.org

Copyright © 2017, 2018 by Charles R. Swindoll, Inc. All rights are reserved worldwide.
Duplication of copyrighted material for commercial use is strictly prohibited.

Committed to Excellence in Communicating Biblical Truth and Its Application

S05
4

JESUS: THE INDESCRIBABLE GIFT

Jesus: The Gift of God's Truth

Twelve Daily Studies for Christmas

John 1:14–18; 8:31–32; 14:1–6

SEARCHING
THE
SCRIPTURES

STUDY

Jesus promised us a home in heaven, but even greater was the reassurance of His eternal presence: “you will always be with me where I am” (John 14:3). How does this promise encourage you today?



A FINAL PRAYER

Father, You sent Your Son for many reasons, but one reason was to deliver a promise that I will dwell forever in Your heavenly home with You and Your Son. The promise of Your presence gives me hope to endure my trials today. Give me a feeling of closeness to You as I move through the moments of my day. Jesus is worthy of my trust, so I believe Your words to be true. I put my faith completely in You. Amen.

ENDNOTE

1. Fred Holloman, as quoted in R. Kent Hughes, *Disciplines of a Godly Man* (Wheaton, IL: Crossway Books, 1991), 119–20.



www.insight.org | www.insightworld.org

Copyright © 2017, 2018 by Charles R. Swindoll, Inc. All rights are reserved worldwide.
Duplication of copyrighted material for commercial use is strictly prohibited.
Committed to Excellence in Communicating Biblical Truth and Its Application

S05
5

JESUS: THE INDESCRIBABLE GIFT

Jesus: The Gift of God's Truth

Twelve Daily Studies for Christmas

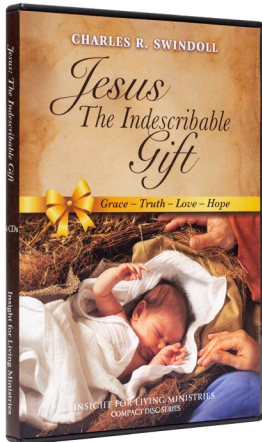
John 1:14–18; 8:31–32; 14:1–6

SEARCHING
THE
SCRIPTURES

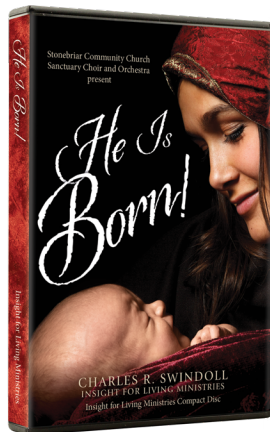
STUDY



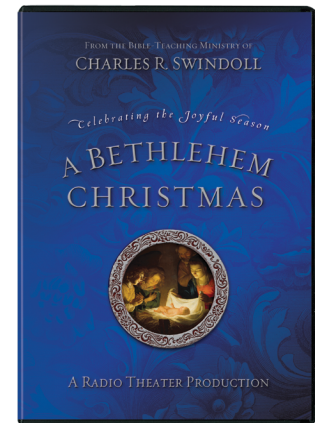
Tools for Digging Deeper



Jesus: The Indescribable Gift
by Charles R. Swindoll
CD series



He Is Born
by Stonebriar Community Church
Choir and Orchestra
compact disc



**A Bethlehem Christmas:
Celebrating the Joyful Season
(A Radio Theater Production)**
by Charles R. Swindoll and
Insight for Living Ministries
compact disc

For these and related resources, visit www.insightworld.org/store
or call USA 1-800-772-8888 • AUSTRALIA +61 3 9762 6613 • CANADA 1-800-663-7639 • UK +44 1306 640156

For the 2018 broadcast, this *Searching the Scriptures* study was developed by Bryce Klabunde, executive vice president of *Searching the Scriptures* Ministries, based upon the original outlines, charts, and sermon transcripts of Charles R. Swindoll's messages.



www.insight.org | www.insightworld.org

Copyright © 2017, 2018 by Charles R. Swindoll, Inc. All rights are reserved worldwide.
Duplication of copyrighted material for commercial use is strictly prohibited.
Committed to Excellence in Communicating Biblical Truth and Its Application

S05
6