

## WHY WAS JESUS BORN?

Dec 27, 2015 • Dr. David Self • Isaiah 62–66 (pp. 480–484 in HCSB provided)

### What if Jesus had never been born?

- ▶ **He was born to \_\_\_\_\_ a bride for Himself.** *Isaiah 62: 1–5, “as a groom rejoices over his bride, so your God will rejoice over you,” (5) 11–12; Revelation 21:1–2*
  - **Heaven’s grace:** *“I will make known the Lord’s faithful love.” Isaiah 63: 7*
  - **Our problem:** *“All of us have become like something unclean, and all our righteous acts are like a polluted garment; all of us wither like a leaf, and our iniquities carry us away like the wind.” Isaiah 64: 8*
  - **God’s character**
    - **Merciful:** *“He redeemed them because of His love and compassion.” Isaiah 63:9b*
    - **Just:** *“But they rebelled and grieved His Holy Spirit. So He became their enemy.” Isaiah 63:10*
  - **His redemption:** *“We all went astray like sheep; we all have turned to our own way; and the Lord has punished Him for the iniquity of us all.” Isaiah 53:6*
  - **Our response:** *“Then your light will appear like the dawn, and your recovery will come quickly. Your righteousness will go before you, and the Lord’s glory will be your rear guard. At that time, when you call, the Lord will answer.” Isaiah 58:8–9a*
- ▶ **He was born to \_\_\_\_\_ all history to His purpose.** *Isaiah 63: 3–4; Revelation 19: 14–16*
- ▶ **He was born to \_\_\_\_\_ His rightful place.** *“And they will proclaim My glory among the nations.” Isaiah 66:19; Philippians 2:10–11*

## BE A DIFFERENCEMAKER

Kids can break down people’s defenses and open lines of communication. John Murchison from Austin Stone Community Church shares a few ways children can help us obey the command to love our neighbors:

- **Starting Conversations.** Many people open up when your kids are with you or if your kids are playing with theirs — How old are they? Where do they go to school?
- **Meeting New Neighbors.** Anyone can bake cookies and knock on a neighbor’s door, but something about having a child with you makes this act less intimidating.
- **Spending Time Together.** If you meet neighbors with kids the same age, make plans to get together at a local park, go on a walk, or have a playdate at one of your houses.

Share your stories at [HoustonsFirst.org/MyStory](http://HoustonsFirst.org/MyStory) and on social media with **#diffmakers**.

# WEEK AT A GLANCE

## VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Visit [HoustonsFirst.org/Volunteer](http://HoustonsFirst.org/Volunteer) for details about the following opportunities and nearly 100 other ways you can serve His Kingdom.

### EVENT ASSISTANT

#### Special Events

Jan.Butterfras@HoustonsFirst.org

### SUPPORT LEADERS

#### First Kids

Chad.Overton@HoustonsFirst.org

### LORD'S SUPPER PREPARATION TEAM

#### Adult Enrichment

misti.steen@nortonrosefulbright.com

### HEARTLAND VOLUNTEERS

#### Preschool & Kindergarten

Danielle.Saunders@HoustonsFirst.org

### WEIGHT ROOM HOST

#### Fitness & Recreation

Debbie.Brown@HoustonsFirst.org

### MIDLINK MEAL TEAM

#### Culinary Services

Lori.Smith@HoustonsFirst.org

### ASSISTED LISTENING DEVICES

During worship services at The Loop Campus, complimentary devices may be checked out from the Receptionist Desk in the Main Foyer.



### MOBILE GIVING

Share your generosity with Houston's First via your mobile device! Text "HFBCLoop" to 77977 to receive a link where you can make a one-time donation or establish recurring giving.

Donations can be made to the following:

- Great Commission Budget
- Local Missions
- Benevolence
- Unstoppable Gospel: The Offering (also known as the World Mission Offering)



### For Baptism

Sara Binau

Heather Connolly

Greg Kohnen

Trina Silva

Katelyn Vickich

Joy Zhou

### From Other Fellowship

Elisabet Colon Aviles

Pablo Colon Aviles

Stephen Fincher

Susan Fincher

Terence Hicks

LeeAnna Howell

Robert Howell

Steve Ibarra

Kami Marrder

Lsai Marrder

Christopher McLarty

Abigail McLarty

Michael Oladiran

Leah Palmer



### SYMPATHIES

- Lynn & Marq Burrow in the loss of Lynn's father, Jim Burrow-Ruidoso.
- Ruth Limon in the loss of her husband, Joe Limon; Joseph & Gabriela, son and daughter-in-law; Elias, grandson.



### ATTENDANCE DEC 20, 2015

Life Bible Study (all campuses)	164
Mission Bible Study	4,419
<b>Total Bible Study</b>	<b>4,583</b>



Week ending Dec 20, 2015

First-time givers 33

Total number of givers 1,426

**Great Commission Giving total \$866,292**

Thank you for giving to the ministry and missional impact of Houston's First!

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