

THE TRUE MEANING OF CHRISTMAS

We hope you enjoy celebrating the marvelous birth of Jesus Christ, who is the Savior of mankind and the true meaning of Christmas. More importantly, we hope you know Jesus Christ as your Lord and Savior. Being a Christian is more than identifying yourself with a particular religion or affirming a certain value system. Being a Christian means you have embraced what the Bible says about God, mankind, and salvation. Consider the following truths found in the Bible.

God is Sovereign Creator. The Bible says we were created by a personal God to love, serve, and enjoy endless fellowship with Him. The New Testament reveals it was Jesus who created everything (John 1:3; Colossians 1:16). Therefore, He also owns and rules everything (Psalm 103:19). That means He has authority over our lives and we owe Him absolute allegiance, obedience, and worship.

God is Holy. God is absolutely and perfectly holy (Isaiah 6:3); therefore, He cannot commit or approve of evil (James 1:13). God requires holiness of us as well. 1 Peter 1:16 says, "You shall be holy, for I am holy."

Mankind Is Sinful. According to Scripture, everyone is guilty of sin: "There is no man who does not sin" (1 Kings 8:46). That doesn't mean we're incapable of performing acts of human kindness, but we're utterly incapable of understanding, loving, or pleasing God on our own (Romans 3:10-12). God's holiness and justice demand that all sin be punished by death (Ezekiel 18:4). That's why simply changing our patterns of behavior can't solve our sin problem or eliminate its consequences.

Jesus is Lord and Savior. Romans 10:9 says, "If you confess with your mouth Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised Him from the dead, you shall be saved." Even though God's justice demands death for sin, His love has provided a Savior who paid the penalty and died for sinners (1 Peter 3:18). Christ's death satisfied the demands of God's justice, and Jesus' perfect life satisfied the demands of God's holiness (2 Corinthians 5:21), thereby enabling Him to forgive and save those who place their faith in Him (Romans 3:26).

The Character of Saving Faith. True faith is always accompanied by repentance from sin. Repentance is agreeing with God that you are sinful, confessing your sins to Him, and making a conscious choice to turn from sin (Luke 13:3, 5; 1 Thessalonians 1:9) and pursue Jesus (Matthew 11:28-30; John 17:3) and obedience to Him (1 John 2:3). It isn't enough to believe certain facts about Jesus. Even Satan and his demons believe in the true God (James 2:19), but they don't love and obey Him. True saving faith always responds in obedience (Ephesians 2:10).

If you would like to speak to someone about becoming a Christian or would like to know more about the ministries at Palmdale Community Church, it would be our great joy to speak with you.



Palmdale Community Church



December 23, 2018



Palmdale Community Church exists to communicate the good news of the risen Jesus Christ. Our goals are to make disciples of Jesus, love one another, and **live with an eternal perspective.**

Dean Spoelstra

Pastor

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Rod Smith

Hispanic Ministries Pastor

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Sunday School and Adult Care Groups 9:30 - 10:30AM

Sunday Worship Service 10:45AM-12:15pm
Child Care and Children's Church available for Nursery-6th Grade

Website: www.palmdalecc.org

Wifi password: PCC_access

Check out our YouTube channel: Palmdale Church

Assisted listening devices available upon request.

Please see an usher.

Please silence your cell phone for the service. Thanks!

1051 East Palmdale Blvd, Palmdale CA 93550 (661) 947-0183

Weekly Announcements

WELCOME to Palmdale Community Church

We are delighted that you are here! If you are visiting for the first time, please fill out a green Connection Card and hand it to an usher. Green Connection Cards may be used by all to communicate a praise report or a prayer request and also to indicate an interest in volunteering in a ministry at PCC.

Missionary of the Month

Kathryn Kreiger Nanga Hobat, Indonesia
Email: Kathryn_kreiger@ntm.org

Verse of the Week

Matthew 4:16

"...the people dwelling in darkness have seen a great light, and for those dwelling in the region and shadow of death, on them a light has dawned."

Candlelight Christmas Eve Service

Come join us tomorrow evening, Monday, Dec 24, 6:30-7:30 for a special worship and praise service. No childcare will be provided, but the Fellowship Room will be open for parents to use, as needed.

Ministries on Break for the Holidays

Please note that all Wednesday Night Ministries are on break until January 16.

The Believability of the Bible

The Principle: God authored the Bible in a manner that separates it from all other sacred texts, and so it alone is the Word of God to humanity.

- Unity through Diversity
- Predictive Prophecy
- Historical Accuracy
- Scientific Accuracy
- Manuscript Preservation
- Addresses the Human Condition
- Remarkable Honesty
- Unparalleled Influence
- Theologically & Religiously Unique
- Transformative Power

On our website, under the Sermons tab, you will find three sermons titled "The Smiling Christian 1,2,3", in which Pastor Dean teaches these truths in detail.

The Best Gift

Pastor Dean