

Handout December 26, 2025

Looking For Jesus **Matthew 7:7-8**

Good evening, welcome back and here we go!

Looking for Jesus! Are you looking for Jesus? Or have you found Him and now you are good? I would hope that you are still seeking a deeper relationship with Jesus, that you keep looking for Him in everything you do. We call this being OCCUPIED WITH CHRIST (OWC) ----- one of our ten core Christian Principles for Living.

Matthew 7:7-8 *“Ask, and it will be given to you; seek, and you will find; knock, and it will be opened to you. ⁸For everyone who asks receives, and he who seeks finds, and to him who knocks it will be opened.*

1) Never stop _____ for Jesus in _____!

We just celebrated the birth of Jesus and now, as usual, we are looking ahead, after, we will do a short review..... I always love those..... *Year in Review* things. But, it doesn't take long before I am projecting the New Year --- to a degree --- I am looking to see what Jesus wants from me!

But when did we as a people start looking for Jesus?

Genesis 3:14-15 *⁴ So the Lord God said to the serpent: “Because you have done this, You are cursed more than all cattle, And more than every beast of the field; On your belly you shall go, And you shall eat dust All the days of your life. ¹⁵ And I will put enmity Between you and the woman, And between your seed and her Seed; He shall bruise your head, And you shall bruise His heel.”*

This is the _____ promise of _____.

We see humanity begin to look for this promised hope!

Then later, we see the Messiah prophesized about ----- throughout...

We hear about the DONKEY, the BIRTH in Bethlehem, the SUFFERING SERVANT. In Daniel we see

Daniel 7:13-14 *“I was watching in the night visions, And behold, One like the Son of Man, Coming with the clouds of heaven! He came to the Ancient of Days, And they brought Him near before Him. ¹⁴ Then to Him was given dominion and glory and a kingdom, That all peoples, nations, and languages should serve Him. His dominion is an everlasting dominion, Which shall not pass away, And His kingdom the one Which shall not be destroyed.*

We see a nation, waiting and looking for Jesus! But, get this ----- many missed it! But not everyone.

Luke 2:25-38

2) Some people were _____ and _____ Jesus to show up!

Isaiah 40:31 *But those who wait on the Lord Shall renew their strength; They shall mount up with wings like eagles, They shall run and not be weary, They shall walk and not faint.*

Are you looking for Jesus today? Are you expecting Him to show up? Or have you found Him and now you are coasting? I mean ----- can we coast? I suppose for a time you can. But, then you become stagnant. Water that stands for a long period of time, basically stagnates and dies. Basic water.....

Others weren't looking for Him. They were looking for an idea, and when the Man didn't fit the idea, He was rejected.

Herod was also looking for Jesus! Yet, so were the wise men...

Matthew 2:1-4 Now after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea in the days of Herod the king, behold, wise men from the East came to Jerusalem, ² saying, "Where is He who has been born King of the Jews? For we have seen His star in the East and have come to worship Him." ³ When Herod the king heard this, he was troubled, and all Jerusalem with him. ⁴ And when he had gathered all the chief priests and scribes of the people together, he inquired of them where the Christ was to be born.

Everyone is looking for Jesus!

Once He came ----- I guess we could stop looking, right?

Matthew 24:32-44

3) Jesus Himself says.... _____!

The whole New Testament is based on this idea that we should be looking for Jesus ----- continually!

My belief system says we are in that time. You may believe something different. I have been looking at the fig tree ---- fulfilled and unfulfilled prophecy. The time is near. So what should be our response? Fear? Or maybe indifference, or doubt?

Philippians 3:7-14

4) Paul says, He _____ to look for _____.

It is an ongoing discipline to continue to seek the face of Jesus.

Don't put stock in how people use or distort the Word. If you do, you are looking to people. That is not God's intent for you!

I look for Jesus ----- in your faces.

I look for Jesus ----- in your actions.

I look for Jesus ----- in opportunity.

I look for Jesus ----- in the quiet.

I look for Jesus ----- in my wife.

I look for Jesus ----- to come soon, real soon.

I look for opportunities to serve others and I find Jesus.

If Jesus were to be found by you tonight..... what would He find? What would you find?

Let's pray.