



Introduction

We spend our lives trying to grip the steering wheel of tomorrow. We want control because control feels like safety. But as we see in the Christmas story, the most significant event in history—the birth of the Savior—happened in a setting where those involved had almost zero control over their circumstances. This week, we explore why "the gift of waiting" for Christ's Kingdom is better than the "instant results" we often chase.

Discussion Questions

1. **The "Slow Cooker" vs. "Microwave":** Think of the taco illustration. In what area of your life right now are you trying to "microwave" a result rather than letting God "slow cook" His plan?
2. **The Universal Craving:** We saw how every age group (children to seniors) seeks control in different ways. Which of the examples mentioned (career, health, legacy, etc.) resonates most with your current season of life?
3. **A Lack of Control:** Read **Matthew 2:13-15**. Jesus' family were refugees fleeing a tyrant. How does it change your perspective on your own "unplanned" struggles to know that the King of Kings began His life with no control over His location or safety?
4. **The Down Payment:** Read **Isaiah 9:6-7**. The text says "the government will be on his shoulders." How does knowing that the "deal is locked in" (like earnest money on a house) help you endure the "broken order" of things we see in the news today?
5. **The Wait as Preparation:** Read **Revelation 21:4-5**. If "patience tastes like heaven" and "impatience tastes like regret," how can we as a group help one another wait well for the fulfillment of these promises?