

# Have Yourself a Spirit-Directed Christmas!

Dec. 18, 2022 – Gal. 5:22-23

Pastor Jon Pickens

## How to Have a Spirit Directed Christmas:

1. Preach to yourself a **perspective** oriented around Christ.
  - a. We look back with **joy** for the first Advent of Christ.
  - b. We look forward with **anticipation** for the second Advent of Christ.
2. Choose to be **content** and **grateful** for the Lord's provision in your life.
3. Yield to the Spirit as you engage in challenging **relationships**.
  - a. Practice **patience**.
  - b. Practice **kindness** and gentleness.
  - c. Be **self-controlled**.
4. Be aware and head off any **envious** thoughts.

## Discussion Questions:

1. What is the greatest challenge to your faith during the Christmas season?
2. Why do you think it is important to orient our hearts around a right perspective about Christ and Christmas?
3. Read Galatians 5:22-23. What fruit of the Spirit do you see lacking in your own life? Why do you think it is lacking?
4. What does contentment look like in your own experience? How can you foster a more content heart.
5. In what ways do you struggle with self-control during the Christmas season? How can this year be different for you?
6. What action are you going to do as a result of the message?

## Next Steps:

1. If you would like to become a follower of Jesus, please let us know. Pastor Jon will be in the room behind the Welcome Center after the service.
2. If you are interested in baptism, let Pastor Jon know in person or email him at [pj@fbclowell.org](mailto:pj@fbclowell.org).
3. Consider joining an elective. They meet most Sundays at 11am.
4. Read the Bible with us to know God and respond to Him! Below is our current schedule.

<b>December 2022</b> Two Year Bible Reading Plan			
<b>Week 1</b> <i>Starting Dec. 5</i>	<b>Week 2</b> <i>Starting Dec. 12</i>	<b>Week 3</b> <i>Starting Dec. 19</i>	<b>Week 4</b> <i>Starting Dec. 26</i>
Day 1: Jer. 24-25	Day 1: Jer. 31	Day 1: Jer. 38-40	Day 1: Jer. 49
Day 2: Jer. 26	Day 2: Jer. 32	Day 2: Jer. 41-42	Day 2: Jer. 50
Day 3: Jer. 27-28	Day 3: Jer. 33-34	Day 3: Jer. 43	Day 3: Jer. 51
Day 4: Jer. 29	Day 4: Jer. 35-36	Day 4: Jer. 44-46	Day 4: Jer. 52
Day 5: Jer. 30	Day 5: Jer. 37	Day 5: Jer. 47-48	Day 5: Lam. 1-2

“This is the covenant I will make with the people of Israel after that time,” declares the Lord . “I will put my law in their minds and write it on their hearts. I will be their God, and they will be my people. No longer will they teach their neighbor, or say to one another, ‘Know the Lord ,’ because they will all know me, from the least of them to the greatest,” declares the Lord . “For I will forgive their wickedness and will remember their sins no more.” ’

- Jeremiah 31:33-34 (NIV)

**What are you going to do as a result of the message this morning?**