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- It is a pleasure to be here today.
- I am delighted to share with you this Christmas season about the living Christ!!
- The Jesus that I call "Friend".
- My hometown is in Alberta, Canada.
- I also lived near Vancouver for 8 years.
- I was raised in a small, farming city on the prairies.
- The population of the then was 8,000 people. Now it is 15,000 people.

- I grew up as a "church- goer".
- Every Sunday I would go to church.
- I hated church.
- The only thing I liked about church was "when it was over."
- I didn't "know" God. I just "knew about" God.
- I would strongly support my religion because it was what I was taught.
- I had associated myself with my religion and not with God.

- One day when I was just about 30 years old I went through a very difficult time.
- I walked into the office of a man who told me for the very first time ever these words...
- "Jesus loves you."
- I want to tell you these same words today......
- "Jesus loves you."

- Those words sometimes just become "words" but they are a lot more than that.
- People say "I love you" all the time these days.
- People say "I love you", get married, and a few years later get divorced.
- People say "I love you" and then they disappoint us or let us down.
- But those words from Jesus mean more than all the "I love you's" people can say.
- Because Jesus is "LOVE".

- Because "Jesus is Love" He can't do anything else but "love you."
- He loves you because He made you.
- He loves you because you are His creation.
- He loves you because "love" is who He is.
- He loves you because He died on the cross for your sins.
- He loves you because He is calling you to His kingdom.
- He loves you because He is committed to you.

- I didn't do anything to earn Jesus' love.
- I am nobody special.
- In fact, if anybody doesn't deserve God's love it is me.
- I really didn't believe in God all those years I went to church.
- I really didn't follow God for all those years I went to church.
- But God showed His marvelous "grace" to me by drawing me to His Son on January 14, 1988.

- A man showed me the "4 Spiritual Laws" from CCC.
- I read the booklet with him.
- It told me that first, God loved me.
- Wow, that sounded great!!
- Second, it told me that I was a sinner.
- Yes, I knew I did lots of things wrong so I could agree with that.

- But I didn't realize that "sin" had come into my whole being and was the cause of "death" in my life.
- "Spiritual death." Separation from God.
- For a "dead spirit" cannot communicate with the ETERNAL LIVING SPIRIT OF GOD.
- And "physical death". My body was dying.
- But Christ's resurrection life gave me the hope of a new "resurrection body" when I shed this tent.

- Third, this booklet told me that Jesus died on the cross for my sins.
- That Christ's death proved that God had forgiven me and that I could be "joined" with Him.
- And Christ's resurrection proved that I could live for eternity with God because He had conquered death.

- Finally, I needed to believe this by "faith".
- I needed to put my trust in what God had done for me.
- I needed to look back to that dreadful and wonderful day when God, Jesus Christ, died on the cross for me.
- And put my faith in the words, "But to all who received Him, to those who believed in His name, He gave the right to become children of God." (John 1:12)
- And I needed to put my faith in the fact that Christ's resurrection gave me eternal life.

- So I took a step of faith and prayed a prayed to ask Jesus into my heart.
- And I became a child of God!!
- Oh, I forgot to tell you how old I am.
- I'm just over 20 years old!!
- My hair is very gray and I look older than "20" don't !?
- But believe it or not "I'm over 20 years old".

- You see I was born on January 14, 1988.
- You see that is my true "birth day".
- That is the day I started my "new life".
- My old life was passing away and I was dying.
- But my "spiritual life" the most important life there is started then.
- That is when I became a "child of the King".

- Oh, I forgot to tell you my name.
- My name is Richard.
- It is not a real special name in many ways but it is the name my parents gave me.
- Richard means "leader".
- But the most important thing about my name is that it is now written "in the Lamb's Book of Life."
- And it is written by a wonderful Savior who proudly opened His book on January 14, 1988.
- He wrote my name down for all eternity.

- I know it is written there because He took a writing utensil and placed it in His hands.
- Those same hands that Roman spikes went through when He died on the cross for me....and you!!

- My Savior calls me by name every day!!
- He calls me to love Him, serve Him, and trust Him.
- He calls me by name!! A gentle, soft, and loving call!!
- And I do my best to say, "Yes, Jesus".
- I respond to that most wonderful name in the whole world.
- The NAME OF "JESUS".

You see JESUS IS THE NAME ABOVE ALL NAMES.

Matthew 1:21 says, "She will give birth to a son, and you are to give him the name Jesus, because he will save his people from their sins."

- It is significant because it is the Greek version of Joshua which means "The LORD saves".
- It is significant because God decided on the name. It was not left to men to choose the name.

- It is significant because the reason for the Name is to save us from our sins.
- Some would rather that He had come to save them from poverty, pain, death; not knowing that to save from sins is to save from all these.

The name of Jesus...

- It is honey in the mouth sweetness itself.
- It is harmony in the ear, melody in the heart.
- It is a name of comfort to sinners when they call upon Him.
- It was consecrated (set apart) (made holy) from everlasting
- It was given by God

The Name of Jesus.

- It was desired by the Patriarchs (fathers) and foretold of the Prophets
- Matt.1:22-23 says, "All this took place to fulfill what the Lord had said through the prophet: "The virgin will be with child and will give birth to a son, and they will call him Immanuel"—which means, "God with us."
- And they will call Him "Immanuel" which means, "God with us."
- The true & living God walked & lived with us.

- Jesus still walks and lives with us by the Power of His Holy Spirit.
- "God with us."
- Before this time God was known by names of power, of nature, of majesty.
- Now God's Name of mercy is revealed in the Name of Jesus.

- I want to ask you a few questions.
- Are you a "church-goer" or a "Jesus lover"?
- Do you believe the words, "JESUS LOVES YOU"?
- Are you "working hard" to try to get to God or are you "receiving" His love and gift of life that He gave you at the cross and thru His resurrection?
- How old are you? When was your "spiritual birth"?
- When Jesus called you by name, have you answered, "Yes Jesus"?

- Do you believe right now that your name is written in the Lamb's Book of Life by hands pierced with Roman spikes?
- Do you believe that God sent Jesus, born of a Virgin, born in a stable, to be your Savior?
- Do you believe that that little baby was to grow up and walk here?
- Do you believe He feds multitudes, healed the sick, caste out demons, raised the dead, loved completely, and spoke words of life?

- Do you believe that He died on the cross for your sins and rose from the dead to give you eternal life?
- And that "Jesus" is the NAME ABOVE ALL NAMES?

- It is Christmas and the best gift I can give you is to tell you that "Jesus loves you."
- If you don't know this Jesus, then I will lead you in a prayer to receive Him into your heart.
- Anyone who doesn't know Jesus, and would like to receive the greatest Christmas gift ever, just bow your head and repeat after me from your heart:

- Father God, thank You for sending Jesus to shed His blood on the cross for my sins.
- Thank You Jesus that in You is forgiveness of sin.
- Thank You Jesus that in You is life.... Eternal life because of Your Resurrection from the dead.
- Your shed blood was for my sin and your resurrection was for my life eternally with You.
- I'm sorry I have not lived my life for you.

- Jesus will You come into my heart right now and fill me with Your Holy Spirit so I can live my life for You.
- Come and fill me with Your love, peace, and forgiveness.
- I need these every day and especially now at Christmas.
- In Jesus' Name I pray. Amen.

- Praise God, Jesus loves you.
- Have a Blessed Christmas knowing your name is written in the Lamb's Book of Life.....
- Here are some verses now to encourage you regarding the NAME OF JESUS!!

- In his name the nations will put their hope." (Matthew 12:21)
- "And whoever welcomes a little child like this in my name welcomes me." (Matthew 18:5)
- "For where two or three come together in my name, there am I with them." (Matthew 18:20)
- for the Mighty One has done great things for me holy is his name. (Luke 1:49)
- "Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!" (John 12:13)

- You may ask me for anything in my name, and I will do it.
 (John 14:13-14)
- "All the prophets testify about him that everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name." (Acts 10:43)
- Then Paul answered, "Why are you weeping and breaking my heart? I am ready not only to be bound, but also to die in Jerusalem for the name of the Lord Jesus." (Acts 21:13)
- And now what are you waiting for? Get up, be baptized and wash your sins away, calling on his name. (Acts 22:16)
- for, "Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved." (Romans 10:13)

- But you were washed, you were sanctified, you were justified in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ and by the Spirit of our God. (1 Cor.6:10-11)
- always giving thanks to God the Father for everything, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ. (Ephesians 5:20)
- Therefore God exalted him to the highest place and gave him the name that is above every name, that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father. (Philippians 2:9-11)

- And whatever you do, whether in word or deed, do it all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him. (Col.3:17)
- We pray this so that the name of our Lord Jesus may be glorified in you, and you in him, according to the grace of our God and the Lord Jesus Christ. (2 Thessalonians 1:12)
- So he became as much superior to the angels as the name he has inherited is superior to theirs. (Hebrew 1:4)

- Through Jesus, therefore, let us continually offer to God a sacrifice of praise-the fruit of lips that confess his name. (Hebrew 13:15-16)
- Is any one of you sick? He should call the elders of the church to pray over him and anoint him with oil in the name of the Lord. (James 5:14)
- If you are insulted because of the name of Christ, you are blessed, for the Spirit of glory and of God rests onif you suffer as a Christian, do not be ashamed, but praise God that you bear that name. (1 Peter 4:14,17)

- And this is his command: to believe in the name of his Son, Jesus Christ, and to love one another as he commanded us. (1 John 3:23)
- I write these things to you who believe in the name of the Son of God so that you may know that you have eternal life. (1 John 5:13)
- You have persevered and have endured hardships for my name, and have not grown weary. (Rev.2:2-3)

 I know your deeds. See, I have placed before you an open door that no one can shut. I know that you have little strength, yet you have kept my word and have not denied my name. (Revelation 3:7-8)

 He is dressed in a robe dipped in blood, and his name is the Word of God. (Rev.19:13-14)

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