

Sunday Leftovers

Sermon Title: The Redemption of Scrooge: Sharing Your Joy

WHAT'S THIS MESSAGE ABOUT?

As we move into the second part of the Scrooge story we see the Ghost of Christmas Present taking Scrooge to the home of his underpaid employee, Bob Cratchet during their family's celebration of Christmas. The spirit makes a point of showing him, that even in the midst of their financial and physical trials, there is a depth of joy and love present that seems to have little connection with any material source. This experience causes Scrooge to consider where the source of this joy comes from. It causes him to reevaluate whether his materialistic perspective of what brings happiness might be the actual "humbug."

Questions for discussion:

- *What do you think was the main point of Matt's message?*
- *What do you think were God's original "reasons for the season?" (Reasons for choosing this particular plan)*
- *How do our current Christmas traditions communicate this?*
- *What are some meaningful ways we can demonstrate the gifts of presence, generosity and grace to those within and outside our family?*

Do something about it: Consider practical ways in which you can demonstrate the "true meaning of Christmas" to others. Find at least one way that you can demonstrate God's unconditional love by giving a life-giving gift to someone who is unable to return your generosity.

Digging deeper: Matthew 2:1-12; John 3:16; John 13:34,35; Luke 6:32-34