

Answer Key:

The Explanation.

1. Ransom
 - sin/ alienated
 - claim
 - redemption
 - human being
2. Repentance
 - like
3. Blind
 - Hearts
 - see
4. Spirit
 - resurrected / incredible gift
5. Eternal
 - believe
 - life
 - restored

Question of the Day?

Do you have room for Jesus this Christmas?

Something is getting ready to Happen!

Part 1

Are you Serious?

Genesis 3:1-4 NIV

"Did God really say, 'You must not eat from any tree in the garden'?" The woman said to the serpent, "We may eat fruit from the trees in the garden, but God did say, 'You must not eat fruit from the tree that is in the middle of the garden, and you must not touch it, or you will die.'" "You will not certainly die," the serpent said to the woman."

Introductory Statement

Imagine throwing a birthday party for a friend, inviting hundreds of guests, preparing an abundant supply of food, and decorating for hours on end, without ever inviting him or her to the party. That would be crazy! Yet year after year, many of us celebrate the birth of Christ without acknowledging the person for which this meaningful holiday was intended.

Jesus is the Reason for Christmas!

Scholars and theologians, ministers and teachers have long pondered the meaning of the life and death of the teacher from Nazareth. Jesus Christ was born and lived on earth for a little more than three decades. But why did He come? Few realize that ultimately there was no other option—Jesus had to be born! God's great plan for mankind included the necessity of a savior, a redeemer of mankind.

The Explanation...

1. He came as a _____ for many.

Mark 10:45 NIV

"For even the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many."

•The reason we need a ransom to be paid for us is that we have sold ourselves into _____ and have been _____ from God.

•When Jesus gave his life as a ransom, our slave master, sin and death, and the devil, had to give up their _____ on us.

How can this be?

•The _____ or the ransom frees us to be a part of the body of Christ

Galatians 4:4-5 NLT

"But when the right time came, God sent his Son, born of a woman, subject to the law. God sent him to buy freedom for us who were slaves to the law, so that he could adopt us as his very own children."

•Jesus has to become a _____
_____ so that he could suffer and die in our place to pay the ransom

Hebrews 2:14 GWT

"Since all of these sons and daughters have flesh and blood, Jesus took on flesh and blood to be like them. He did this so that by dying he would destroy the one who had power over death (that is, the devil)."

The most important part of Christmas is the first six letters in it!

2. He came to call us to _____.

Luke 5:31-32 GNT

"Jesus answered them, "People who are well do not need a doctor, but only those who are sick. I have not come to call respectable people to repent, but outcasts."

•We are to be _____ Christ.

3 John 1:11 Message

"Friend, don't go along with evil. Model the good. The person who does good does God's work. The person who does evil falsifies God, doesn't know the first thing about God."

Acts 2:38 NKJV

"Then Peter said to them, "Repent, and let every one of you..."

3. He came to open the eyes of those who are _____.

Psalms 146:8 NKJV

"The LORD opens the eyes of the blind;"

•_____ have eyes, windows letting in the light of life.

Acts 26:18 CEV

"I want you to open their eyes, so that they will turn from darkness to light and from the power of Satan to God. Then their sins will be forgiven, and by faith in me they will become part of God's holy people."

•This is why Jesus came: that those who do not see may

_____.

Happy is the person who's eyes are wide open to discern, desire, and do God's will.

4. He came to make His _____ available to us.

John 14:26 NABS

"The Advocate, the Holy Spirit that the Father will send in my name—he will teach you everything and remind you of all that [I] told you."

•Not only did Jesus have to be born, but He had to pay the penalty for our sins through His own death, then be _____ to ascend to the Father as our High Priest. Only then would humanity at large be able to receive and benefit from the _____ of God's Holy Spirit.

Acts 2:38-39 NIV

"Peter replied, "Repent and be baptized, every one of you, in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins. And you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. The promise is for you..."

5. He came to give us _____ life.

John 3:16 NRS

"For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life."

•God sent his Son so that we could _____ and have eternal _____.

•Through Christ, God has _____ that which was lost in the Garden of Eden: access to a right relationship with God.

What are you going to do with Christmas this Year?