

'TIS THE SEASON

WEEK 1 // THE ONE THING

DANNY ANDERSON

That night there were shepherds staying in the fields nearby, guarding their flocks of sheep. Suddenly, an angel of the Lord appeared among them, and the radiance of the Lord's glory surrounded them. They were terrified, but the angel reassured them. "Don't be afraid!" he said. "I bring you **good news** that will bring **great joy** to all people. The Savior—yes, the Messiah, the Lord—has been born today in Bethlehem, the city of David! And you will recognize him by this sign: You will find a baby wrapped snugly in strips of cloth, lying in a manger." *Luke 2:8-12*

The purpose of Christmas is joy.

We are distracted.

Attention leads to awareness.

As Jesus and the disciples continued on their way to Jerusalem, they came to a certain village where a woman named Martha welcomed him into her home. Her sister, Mary, **sat** at the Lord's feet, **listening** to what he taught. But Martha was **distracted** by the big dinner she was preparing. She came to Jesus and said, "Lord, doesn't it seem unfair to you that my sister just sits here while I do all the work? Tell her to come and help me." But the Lord said to her, "My dear Martha, you are **worried** and **upset** over all these **details**! There is only **one thing** worth being concerned about. Mary has discovered it, and it will not be taken away from her." *Luke 10:38-42*

How can we avoid being distracted?

Recognize good things can become the wrong things when they are prioritized over the one thing.

The one thing is to be with Jesus.

"Look! The virgin will conceive a child! She will give birth to a son, and they will call him Emmanuel, which means 'God is with us.'" *Matthew 1:23*

Recognize the insignificance of practically everything.

I once thought these things were valuable, but now I consider them **worthless** because of what Christ has done. Yes, everything else is **worthless** when compared with the infinite value of **knowing** Christ Jesus my Lord. For his sake I have **discarded** everything else, counting it all as **garbage**, so that I could gain Christ and become one with him. *Philippians 3:7-9*

I desire you more than anything on earth. *Psalms 73:25*

How will you prioritize the **one** thing?

EVENTS & OPPORTUNITIES

Full list of events and registration is available at eclife.org's EVENTS page

Impact Team Night

A once-a-month event for both Impact Team members and those interested in learning more about how to join the Impact Team. This is a time to connect with others at your campus, worship together, and hear a word of encouragement.

For the last half of the night, current team members will break out to meet with their specific ministry teams and if you are new, we invite you to attend Impact 101 to begin to discover where you could use your gifts and talents to make an impact through serving at Emmanuel.

When: Monday, December 9, 6:30pm*

Current Impact Team Members:
Text TEAM to 65248 to register

Interested in Joining the Team:
Text 101 to 65248 to register

**Childcare available*

Foster & Adoption Ministry Q&A

Want to learn how you can become a foster family or support one? This Impact Team Night breakout session will give you the opportunity to learn more about Emmanuel's Foster and Adoption Ministry and how you can get involved. Text TEAM to 65248 to register.

When: Monday, December 9, 6:30pm

Where: All Emmanuel campuses at Impact Team Night

Garfield Park Campus Open House

You're invited to join us for coffee, cupcakes, and cocoa as we celebrate the upcoming grand opening of Emmanuel's beautifully renovated fifth campus.

When: Thursday, December 12, 5:00-8:00pm

Where: 743 E Pleasant Run Pkwy S Dr, Indpls, IN 46203