

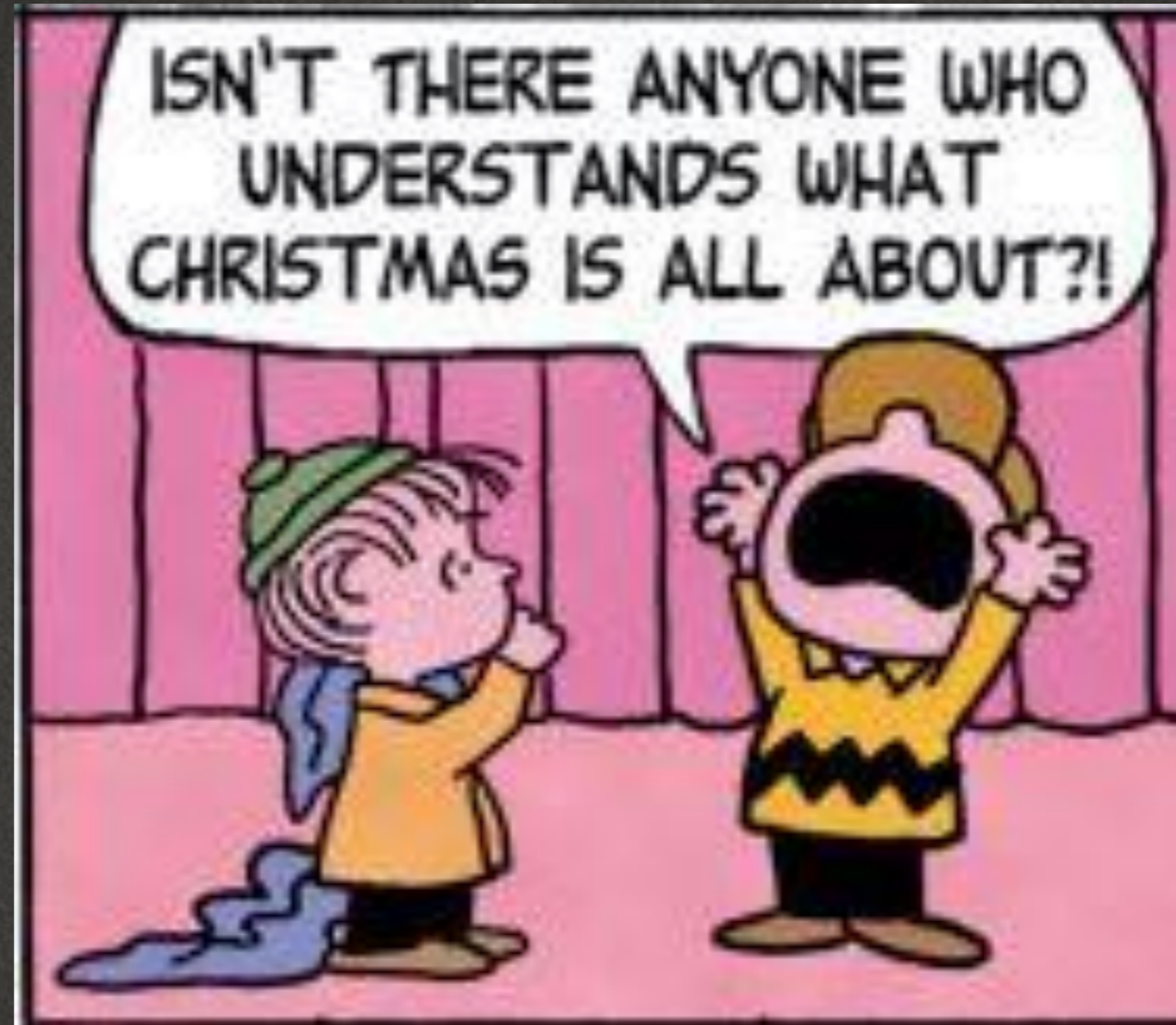
That's Christmas to me



CENTRAL CHRISTIAN CHURCH of MALAYSIA

That's Christmas to Me

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That's Christmas to Me

- ☞ Is that what has happened to Christmas. The this holiday was intended to honour has been forgotten buried underneath layers of boxes, bows, ribbons, parties and lights.
- ☞ Millions of people are going through all this activity and giving little or no thought whatsoever to the real reason we are celebrating

That's Christmas to Me

☞ 1. Christmas Means...God Keeps His Promises

☞ Proverbs 25:14 - Like clouds and wind without rain is one who boasts of gifts never given.

☞ Have we come across people who promises of what they will do - BUT they never deliver?

That's Christmas to Me

- ☞ God keeps his promises... AND – he has been doing it from the beginning....
- ☞ “The Lord did exactly what he had promised.” Gen 21:1
- ☞ I am with you and will watch over you wherever you go, and I will bring you back to this land. I will not leave you until I have done what I have promised you.”
Gen 28:15

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- ⌘ Throughout the OT over & over again, 100's of times God's prophets spoke about this promise. The spoke about Jesus birth
- ⌘ In his book, Science Speaks, Peter Stoner applies the modern science of probability to just eight prophecies regarding Christ. He says, "The chance that any man might have fulfilled all eight prophecies is one in 10 to the 17th. That would be 1 in 100,000,000,000,000,000."
- ⌘ According to Dr. Reginald Dunlap there are approximately 30,000 promises in the Bible.

That's Christmas to Me

- ☞ And this Christmas, let us not forget HIS promise of the birth of the Jesus
- ☞ Paul, a servant of Christ Jesus, called to be an apostle and set apart for the gospel of God - the gospel he promised beforehand through his prophets in the Holy Scriptures regarding his Son, who as to his earthly life was a descendant of David, Romans 1:1-3
- ☞ Gen 3, after the fall of Men. God promised – **in the future I will send someone born of woman who will defeat the serpent**

That's Christmas to Me

☞ When God makes a promise he is going to keep it

☞ In Psalm 15 the Psalmist asks these questions; “Who may worship in your sanctuary, Lord? Who may enter your presence on your holy hill?”

☞ Christmas means – the God keeps his promise – You can trust his word!!!

That's Christmas to Me

❧ 2. Christmas Means...You Matter To God

❧ Do you feel like you matter? that you are important? That you are worthwhile? That you count?

❧ Luke 2:10-11 But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid. I bring you good news that will cause great joy for all the people. Today in the town of David a Saviour has been born to you; he is the Messiah, the Lord.

That's Christmas to Me

- ☞ I bring you good news of great joy, for who?
EVERYONE! NOT just for the pretty, smart, strong, wealthy or talented, **BUT** for everyone!
- ☞ People matter to God... **AND** - not just tribes and nations, **BUT** individual people
- ☞ In that endless of names in Bible– every single name means something to God, He knows who every person is – He doesn't skip over a single one

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- ☞ Jesus told 3 parables in Luke 15 to teach how much one person matters to God... (lost coin, lost sheep and the lost son)... In each, God is teaching that what is lost is of extreme value to him and that he will do what ever it takes, to get them back...including sending His on Son to this earth.
- ☞ When God sent His Son to this earth over 2,000 years ago he was thinking of you... He did it for you... “he did it for me”
- ☞ Christmas Means.. That You (sitting in this room today) matter to Almighty God!

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❧ 3. Christmas Means...Your Past Can Be Forgiven

❧ Romans 3:23-24 for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, and all are justified freely by his grace through the redemption that came by Christ Jesus.

❧ That's good news. - the fact is none of us are perfect. HEY - we don't even measure up to our own standards, much less God's.

That's Christmas to Me

- ☞ We all have regrets and guilt. AND this guilt has a devastating effect on our lives. It robs us of happiness.
- ☞ People will do anything in order to relieve guilt. They'll take drugs, get drunk, go to therapy or become workaholics. Anything to cover up the things they wish hadn't happened in their life.
- ☞ There's only one solution to guilt. Forgiveness.

That's Christmas to Me

That's Christmas to Me

☞ The good news is, God wants to forgive you.

☞ He wants to clear your conscious, take away your guilt and clean your slate.

☞ When God forgives you:

☞ It's instant.

☞ It's undeserved

☞ It's complete

That's Christmas to Me

☞ He has not punished us for all our sins, nor does he deal with us as we deserve. For his unfailing love toward those who fear him is as great as the height of the heavens above the earth. He has removed our rebellious acts as far away from us as the east is from the west. Ps 103:10-12

☞ And I will forgive their wrongdoings, and I will never again remember their sins. Hebrews 8:12

That's Christmas to Me

☞ God wants you to not just turn over a new leaf, God wants to give you a new life.

☞ This Christmas, remember

☞ His promises

☞ You matter

☞ You're pardon