

**Pastor's Weekly Devotional- December 18, 2014**

**“The Nativity Scene”**

There are a couple of movies I love to watch at Christmas. One of my old favorites is “A Charlie Brown Christmas.” The movie, in my opinion, is quite telling and very relative today. It’s the story of a little boy trying to find out what Christmas is all about. And this is so true today.

Charlie Brown is surrounded with the glitz and embellishments of Christmas, but they have no effect on him. The spirit of Christmas is elusive to him. He feels empty. At his lowest point, Linus, Charlie’s friend, shares with him (Charlie) that Christmas has to do with the birth of Jesus, the Savior of the world. This revelation changed Charlie Brown as he joyfully discovers the true meaning of Christmas.

It is without a shadow of a doubt that the truth about Christmas is lost in the frenzy of eating, drinking and gift-giving. Let us, therefore, be reminded that Christmas is the time when the eternal, omnipotent God “put on flesh” and entered into our world and was “born in a manger.”

What’s wrong with this picture? A Manger not a Holiday Inn? God humbled Himself and made Himself available to all kinds of people – the good, the bad, the ugly. Any commoner can approach God and find Grace. Every “fallen” person can approach God and find Forgiveness. Any child can approach God and be reminded that He (God) through Jesus Christ was a Child – helpless and vulnerable and that He cares for the rich as well as the poor, the helpless as well as the accomplished.

The Christ Child made it possible that God was now accessible, available and approachable. So here’s the answer to the question: What’s Wrong With The Picture of the Christ Child in a Manger? Absolutely nothing! It’s a picture of a loving God identifying with humanity.

Have a blessed week!. See you in church Sunday!  
Pastor Sewdin