



## Sermon Notes: Adventures in Missing Jesus

### 1. King Herod:

Missed Jesus because he didn't want to lose power or control.

Application:

### 2. Zechariah:

Almost missed Jesus because he couldn't see beyond his own reason and experience.

Application:

### 3. The Innkeeper:

Missed Jesus because he had other commitments or priorities.

Application:

Three problems with one solution: repentance and faith.



## Gospel Applications: Adventures in Missing Jesus

### Discuss.

1. Give examples of how people miss Jesus today for the same reasons that were shared in the message.
2. Without repeating the message, how would you finish this sentence: "*Most people seem to be missing Jesus because . . . \_\_\_\_\_*"? In what other ways do you see our culture missing Jesus?
3. Of Herod, Zechariah, or the innkeeper, which do you identify with most? Why? How does it help you to recognize these tendencies?
4. Reflect: What do you think sits on the throne of your heart? What gets your attention, your affection, and your allegiance?
5. How do the things you listed under #4 diminish your appreciation for the first advent of Jesus? How do they diminish your anticipation of the second coming of Jesus?
6. What are your biggest unmet expectations? How do you think they've impacted your spiritual health?
7. Make a quick list of your existing priorities and commitments. What gets your best time and energy? What do you give to most effortlessly?
8. What will you cut or adapt in order to create margins/bandwidth that will allow you to truly prioritize and welcome Christ?

### Pray.

1. Ask God to show you how and why you're missing Jesus. Confess these things as the barriers to faith that they are. (3 minutes)
2. Praise the Lord for sending His Son to give us the gifts of salvation (peace, forgiveness, joy, freedom, contentment, etc.). Ask Him to reign in your heart to make these things a practical reality. (5 minutes)