**Christmas: Who What Why?**

**Who? His identity. 2 December**

**Son of God**: Jesus is referred to as the "Son of God" throughout the New Testament—for example, in Matthew 14:33, after Jesus walks on water: "And those in the boat worshiped Him, saying, 'Truly you are the Son of God.'" The title emphasizes Jesus's divinity. At Christmas, it’s tempting to miss the wonder that the baby in the manger was no less than the Son of God. Today we explore Jesus identity – how could He be the Son of God but also in the Bible be referred to as the Son of Man, the Son of Abraham and the Son of Mary? Who exactly is Jesus?

**What? His mission. 9 December**

**Lamb of God**: This title appears only once in the Bible, though in a crucial passage, John 1:29: "The next day he saw Jesus coming toward him, and said, 'Behold, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world!'" The identification of Jesus with the lamb emphasizes Christ's innocence and obedience before God, an essential aspect of the crucifixion. Christmas was the start of Jesus life on Earth – what was His mission?

**Why? His call 16 December**

**Jesus:** Even before His birth, Jesus’s name had been chosen and it reflected the reason for His coming. Matthew 1:21: “She will give birth to a son, and you are to give Him the name Jesus, because He will save his people from their sins.” This was the message the angels gave to Joseph. This is the message we preach today. Jesus came to Earth to save us from our sins. Does this matter today? What is His call on our lives?

**Now what? Our response. 23 December**

Having considered the ‘who, what and why’ of Christmas over the past few weeks, now what? How do we respond to the one who was the Son of God, the Lamb of God and whose name tells us that he came to save us from our sins? We know that his birth was the start and that ultimately he was sacrificed for our sins on the cross. Now what? If we believe that Jesus lives today, what is his ongoing role in our lives? Jesus is not just for Christmas – Jesus is for life – real life!