



“You’ve told it so many times, does anything new ever jump out at you about Christmas Story?”

That’s a great question. It would certainly seem that the more times you read a passage of Scripture that it would be less and less likely you will “get something new” out of it.

But this year, a couple things struck me. One came when watching (for probably the twentieth time - or more) my all-time favorite Christmas special: “A Charlie Brown Christmas.”

I’ve always loved the scene where Linus tells Charlie, “I can tell you what Christmas is all about Charlie Brown,” then steps up on stage and recites the Christmas Story from Luke chapter 2. But this year I noticed something I hadn’t before: Prior to that scene, all the kids were acting very self-centered, not getting along real well, bickering and complaining. And, of course, Charlie was in a funk! <https://youtu.be/KXmGLJ0S1Bs?t=118>

But everything changed for the kids after Linus reminded them that Christmas was really all about “the good news of great joy about a Savior!” The kids were now more at peace. Cooperation replaced their self-centeredness. Kind comments replaced their bickering. Joy permeated the scenes, and Charlie was filled with hope! Being reminded what Christmas is really all about literally changed everything! Why hadn’t I noticed that before? I don’t know, but I’m glad I noticed it this time around, because Jesus coming does change everything!

The other thing that jumped out at me this year is something I talked about during the Candlelight Service. <https://youtu.be/76scl8NICFg> Of all the made-up Super Hero stories that grab the interest of young and old alike, none can compare with the true story of Jesus that begins in a manger in a little town called Bethlehem. If you weren’t able to make it to the Candlelight Service on Christmas Eve, please go to our YouTube page and watch/listen again to the beginning of the Greatest True Story Ever Told (*see previous page*). Why would you want inferior magic or fantasy super-heroes when you can have a real, true Super-Hero with the very power of God!

Thanks for asking,
Pastor David

Send your questions to pastor@livingwordlutheran.net