

# UNWRAPPING CHRISTMAS

## “Wrapped in Simplicity”

**We are drawn to elaborate wrappings.**

**We often look to these things to satisfy our deepest longings.**

**The problem is, when we unwrap those packages, we often end up disappointed.**

### **Luke 2:4-12 (NLT)**

*<sup>4</sup> And because Joseph was a descendant of King David, he had to go to Bethlehem in Judea, David's ancient home. He traveled there from the village of Nazareth in Galilee. <sup>5</sup> He took with him Mary, to **whom he was engaged, who was now expecting a child.** <sup>6</sup> And while they were there, the time came for her baby to be born. <sup>7</sup> She gave birth to her firstborn son. She wrapped him snugly in **strips of cloth** and **laid him in a manger**, because there was **no lodging available** for them.*

*<sup>8</sup> That night there were **shepherds staying in the fields nearby**, guarding their flocks of sheep. <sup>9</sup> Suddenly, an angel of the Lord appeared among them, and the radiance of the Lord's glory surrounded them. They were terrified, <sup>10</sup> but the angel reassured them. **“Don't be afraid!”** he said. “I bring you good news that will bring great joy to all people. <sup>11</sup> The Savior—yes, the Messiah, the Lord—has been born today in Bethlehem, the city of David! <sup>12</sup> And you will recognize him by this sign: You will find a baby wrapped snugly in strips of cloth, lying in a manger.”*

### **THE SUPERNATURAL BRIDGES THE SIGNIFICANCE GAP BETWEEN OUR FIRST IMPRESSIONS AND OUR LASTING FULFILLMENT**

### **Philippians 2:7-8 (NIV)**

*<sup>7</sup> ...He **made himself nothing** by taking the very nature of a servant, being made in human likeness. <sup>8</sup> And being found in appearance as a man, he humbled himself by **becoming obedient to death—even death on a cross!***

# EVERYTHING WE LONG FOR IS FOUND IN THE GIFT OF CHRISTMAS

## John 3:16 (NIV)

<sup>16</sup> For God so **loved** the world that he **gave** his one and only Son, that whoever **believes** in him shall not perish but **have** eternal life.