



# ***REFLECTIONS***

January 8, 2012

**Now you are the body of Christ, and each one  
of you is a part of it.**

*1 Corinthians 12:27*

## **Mission to Planet Earth**

It all began as a remote scene in Bethlehem at a place intended for animals, not people. Except for a select few who saw the star and followed it, the scene went mostly unnoticed. Even those few who came to see the newborn seemed to soon forget what they saw, especially *who* they saw. But those who witnessed the child and spread the news are not the story. Jesus is.

God sent Jesus on a mission to planet earth. He came as a man because that is the only form he would be understood. Only in human form would people stop to listen to his teaching. Only in human form could the impact of his suffering on the cross be felt. Only in human form could his death and resurrection bring hope that death will not prevail.

God sent Jesus on a mission to planet earth. But do we ever pause to wonder if He has assigned us a mission too? Like Jesus, our births drew little public notice. Most who did notice soon forgot what they saw, and many of them, *who* they saw. But obscurity from the public eye does not diminish the importance of the mission God has for us on planet earth.

Yes, we seem to be much like everyone else. But equality among men is what makes people listen to what we say. Equality among men is the reason people watch the way we worship God, reveal love, and respond to suffering. And though our lives may be small in relation to the world, there *is* an audience we play to and that audience is paying close attention.

God sent Jesus on a mission to planet earth. He is still the story. But God has sent you and me on a mission too. He sent Jesus to die for us. God sent us to live for him.

*We have different gifts, according to the grace given us. If a man's gift is prophesying, let him use it in proportion to his faith. If it is serving, let him serve; if it is teaching, let him teach; if it is encouraging, let him encourage; if it is contributing to the needs of others, let him give generously; if it is leadership, let him govern diligently; if it is showing mercy, let him do it cheerfully.* (Romans 12:6-8)

God has sent us on a mission to planet earth. It requires the gifts of each of us to get it done. May we all do our part.

*You are the light of the world,*

*Richard* +

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