

## Ugly...Ugly...Ugly

*“The Grinch hated Christmas, the whole Christmas season. Now please don’t ask why. No one quite knows the reason. It could be perhaps that his shoes were too tight. It could be his head wasn’t screwed on just right. But I think that the most likely reason of all may have been that his heart was two sizes too small.” – Dr. Seuss*

**The question I should ask myself: Am I letting my heart shrivel up like Herod’s or is my heart growing larger as I mature?**

### **Five Snapshots of King Herod:**

1. \_\_\_\_\_.

*“After Jesus was born in Bethlehem in Judea, during the time of King Herod, Magi from the east came to Jerusalem and asked, ‘Where is the one who has been born king of the Jews? We saw his star in the east and have come to worship him.’ When King Herod heard this he was disturbed, and all Jerusalem with him.” – Matthew 2:1-3*

*“We’ve seen a special star that signifies to us that an important king has just been born. Do you know where we could find this emerging ruler? When King Herod heard this he was disturbed, and all Jerusalem with him.” – Matthew 2:2-3*

*“Deny yourself and take up your cross and follow me.” – Matthew 16:24*

*“Don’t lay up treasure on earth.” – Matthew 6:19*

*“The greatest among you will be the servant of all.” – Matthew 23:11*

*“Unless you humble yourself and become like little children you can’t enter the kingdom of God.” – Matthew 18:3*

*“This is the verdict: Light has come into the world, but men loved darkness instead of light because their deeds were evil.” – John 3:19*

2. \_\_\_\_\_.

*“When he had called together all the people’s chief priests and teachers of the law, he asked them where the Christ was to be born. ‘In Bethlehem in Judea,’ they replied, ‘for this is what the prophet has written: ‘But you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, are by no means least among the rulers of Judah; for out of you will come a ruler who will be the shepherd of my people Israel.’ Then Herod called the Magi secretly and found out from them the exact time the star had appeared. He sent them to Bethlehem and said, ‘Go and make a careful search for the child. As soon as you find him, report to me, so that I too may go and worship him.” – Matthew 2:4-8*

*“Watch out that no one deceives you. For many will come in my name, claiming, ‘I am the Christ,’ and will deceive many.” – Matthew 24:5*

*“... after I leave, savage wolves will come in among you and will not spare the flock. Even from your own number men will arise and distort the truth in order to draw away disciples after them. So be on your guard!” – Acts 20:29-31*

*“Above all else, guard your heart, for it is the wellspring of life.” – Proverbs 4:23*

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3. \_\_\_\_\_.

*“After they had heard the king, they went on their way, and the star they had seen in the east went ahead of them until it stopped over the place where the child was. When they saw the star they were overjoyed. On coming to the house, they saw the child with his mother Mary, and they bowed down and worshiped him. Then they opened their treasures and presented him with gifts of gold and of incense and of myrrh. And having been warned in a dream not to go back to Herod, they returned to their country by another route.” – Matthew 2:9-12*

*“When Herod realized that he had been outwitted by the Magi, he was furious.” – Matthew 2:16*

*“Do not be deceived: God cannot be mocked. A man reaps what he sows.” – Galatians 6:7*

*“Whatever measure you use, it shall be measured to you.” – Matthew 7:2*

*“Be sure your sins will find you out.” – Numbers 32:23*

*“Above all else, guard your heart, for it is the wellspring of life.” – Proverbs 4:23*

4. \_\_\_\_\_.

*“When Herod realized that he had been outwitted by the Magi, he was furious, and he gave orders to kill all the boys in Bethlehem and its vicinity who were two years old and under, in accordance with the time he had learned from the Magi. Then what was said through the prophet Jeremiah was fulfilled: ‘A voice is heard in Ramah, weeping and great mourning, Rachel weeping for her children and refusing to be comforted, because they are no more.’” – Matthew 2:16-18*

*“Anyone who harms one of these little ones would be better off if a millstone were tied around his neck and he were drowned in the depths of the sea.” – Matthew 18:6*

*“A voice is heard in Ramah, weeping.” – Jeremiah 31:15*

*“If anyone is ashamed of me and my words, the Son of Man will be ashamed of him when he comes in his glory.” – Luke 9:26*

*“Don’t be overcome with evil but overcome evil with good.” – Romans 12:21*

*“Above all else, guard your heart, for it is the wellspring of life.” – Proverbs 4:23*

5. \_\_\_\_\_.

*“After Herod died, an angel of the Lord appeared in a dream to Joseph in Egypt and said, ‘Get up, take the child and his mother and go to the land of Israel, for those who were trying to take the child’s life are dead.’ So he got up, took the child and his mother and went to the land of Israel.” – Matthew 2:19-21*

*“Just as man is destined to die once, and after that to face judgment.” – Hebrews 9:27*

*“God laid on Him the iniquity of us all.” – Isaiah 53:6*

*“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.” – John 3:16*

**Reflect: How will you apply this teaching? What really stood out to you in this message?**

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