

MEETING GOD IN FAMILIAR PLACES  
GOD'S GIFT IN LUKE 2  
LUKE 2:1-14



### The Heart of the Matter

Have you ever received a gift you didn't want? Most of us have. Socks instead of a compact disc, the figurine you'd *never* display, the cow calendar instead of the Cowboys calendar. When someone gives you something that you don't want rather than what you do, it's easy to wonder if they pay attention to who you are. Occasionally, however, they know you better than you think. Sometimes, they give you what you *need* rather than what you want. And that's a special gift indeed.



### Discovering the Way

#### 1. The Unexpected Gift (Luke 2:1-14)

The Jews wanted a champion and got a child, expected a sword and got swaddling clothes. This is not what they'd asked for.

#### 2. The Unanticipated Problem

The Jews needed a Savior but not for the problem they wanted solved—Rome. They needed a Savior for their *real* problem—sin.

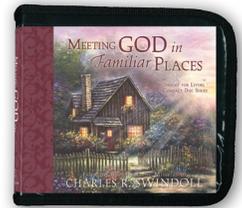


### Starting Your Journey

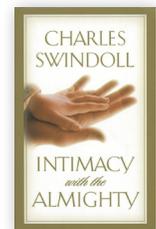
What besets you today? Whatever it may be, there is a greater problem all of us face—the problem of sin. To solve that one, we must accept God's divine gift of grace, which was Jesus's death on the cross.



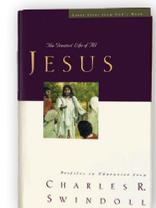
### Tools for Digging Deeper



**Meeting God in Familiar Places**  
by Charles R. Swindoll  
compact disc series



**Intimacy with the Almighty**  
by Charles R. Swindoll  
study guide



**Jesus, the Greatest Life of All**  
by Charles R. Swindoll  
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