

The Soul Felt Its Worth

A Christmas Meditation from Tamassee

Jon Holland, Tamassee CEO

When my wife and I were newlyweds, she bought me a watch for Christmas with a sweet message engraved on the back. I wore with it with delight and affection – until I lost it. I was working for a furniture company at the time, and the watch must have fallen off somewhere in the warehouse or showroom. I searched everywhere – under every bed and dresser, in every crevice, in the trash dumpster – all to no avail. I was so disappointed. In the days ahead, I continued to look for the watch. I searched and searched because the watch meant so much to me. Fifty dollars was a lot for poor newlyweds in 2000, but it really wasn't the money. Jenni gave it to me, and that made it irreplaceable.



In Luke 19:10, Jesus says, “The Son of Man came to seek and save the lost.” We only search for lost things that are valuable to us. If I lose a penny or a paperclip, no big deal. If I lose a gift from a loved one, then I look for days. If I lost one of my children, I’d search till the end of my days. I’d go to any lengths, pay any price, and do any and everything to bring my beloved child home. That’s exactly what God did. In Jesus, God went to any lengths, paid every price, did any and everything to bring his precious children home.



My favorite Christmas carol is probably, “O Holy Night.” The lyrics begin with, “O Holy Night! The stars are brightly shining. It is the night of the dear Savior's birth! Long lay the world in sin and error pining, Till he appear'd and the soul felt its worth. A thrill of hope the weary soul rejoices, For yonder breaks a new and glorious morn!” That’s it! Jesus appeared and every soul can feel it’s true worth. God loves us and has gone to the greatest lengths to liberate us from sin and death and give us a new and glorious morning. A thrill of hope for weary souls – that’s what Christmas is all about.

For over a century, Tamassee DAR School has offered the thrill of hope to the weary souls of children. Children who pined in ignorance, abuse, and neglect – who didn’t feel the worth of their souls. At Tamassee, a new and glorious morning broke, and they discovered Jesus seeks and rescues them with his all-consuming love.

All our programs embody the spirit of Christmas. Starlight, Early Learning, and Afterschool offer children and mothers a place to discover their souls’ worth, enjoy the thrill of hope, and enter a new and glorious morn. Our staff embody in practical and faithful ways the One who has been seeking them all along.

So during this holiday season, I pray you will sing “O Holy Night” from the depths of your heart in praise of the God’s whose love never stops seeking you and all his beloved children. To learn more about Tamassee, visit www.tdarschool.org, or contact us at tamaseekids@tdarschool.org or 864-944-1390. If your church or civic group is interested in a presentation on Tamassee, contact Jon Holland at jholland@tdarschool.org.