



# FAITH matters

February 20, 2023

## JESUS MATTERS

Have you ever seriously considered what the world would be like if Jesus had not been born? Frederick Buechner in his book *The Hungering Dark* puts it like this.

*“When that child was born the whole course of history was changed. That is a fact as hard and blunt as any fact. Art, music, literature, our culture itself, our political institutions, our world- it is impossible to conceive of how differently world history would have developed if that child had not been born. And in terms of faith, much more must be said because for faith, the birth of the child into the darkness of the world made possible not just a new way of understanding life but a new way of living life.”*

Because of Jesus and his teaching all lives matter, every color or ethnic group, male or female, child or adult. Slavery was abolished, hospitals and schools were built, our legal system was established, charities have been born, magnificent works of art have been and are being created and we are given the power to overcome our immoral, selfish natures.

Without Jesus we would be lost in the darkness of our greed and selfish ambitions. We would be controlled by fears and the lusts of our flesh and have no boundaries or guidance. Where would you or I turn for help and hope?

Buechner sums it up so wisely. “ all the way down the twenty centuries since that child was born there have been countless different kinds of people who in countless different kinds of ways have been filled with his spirit, who have been grasped by him, caught up into his life, who have found themselves in deep private ways healed and transformed by their relationships with him. In this child, in the man he grew up to be, there is the power of God to bring light into our darkness, to make us whole, to

give a new kind of life to anybody who turns toward him in faith, even to such as you and me.”

## Jesus matters! Faith matters!

~Written by Marilyn Whisner



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