

The Could'ves:

## Guest Speaker Pastor Dave Gudgel

**Date:** December 31, 2023 **Message:** Who I'm Meant to Be

Scripture: John 1:10-13

**John 1:10-13 -** He was in the world, and though the world was made through him, the world did not recognize him. <sup>11</sup> He came to that which was his own, but his own did not receive him. <sup>12</sup> Yet to all who received him, to those who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God— <sup>13</sup> children born not of natural descent, nor of human decision or a husband's will, but born of God.

## **Questions for Reflection and Discussion**

John 1:10-13

- 1. In what ways do you see identity confusion in our world among believers and unbelievers alike?
- 2. The failure of people in the 1<sup>st</sup> century to *recognize* Jesus as the creator and maker of the world continues to this day in the 21<sup>st</sup> century. What is it that holds people back from *recognizing* Jesus as the designer and maker of the heavens and the earth?
- 3. In your opinion, what primarily stood in the way of the Israelites receiving Jesus as the Promised Messiah? Was rejection based on their own doing or something else?
- 4. How can a person be sure they are a child of God? Can a person be an offspring of God but not a child of God? (see Acts 17:18)
- 5. John 1:12 speaks of salvation involving believing and receiving. Which comes first? Are both of these responses necessary for a person to be adopted into God's family? Can it be one of these actions and not the other?
- 6. How can today's message focus have an impact on your life both today and throughout the coming new year?