**Interview Questions for Max Lucado -- Author of**

***Because of Bethlehem: Love Is Born, Hope Is Here***

*This is why I love Christmas. It invites us to believe the wildest of promises: God became one of us so we could become one with him. He did away with every barrier, fence, sin, bent, debt, and grave. Anything that might keep us from him was demolished. He only awaits our word to walk through the door.*

*Invite him in. Escort him to the seat of honor, and pull out his chair. Clear the table; clear the calendar. Call the kids and neighbors. Christmas is here. Christ is here.* –Max Lucado

* Why do you love Christmas so much?
* Any particularly favorite childhood Christmas memories? Or favorite Christmas traditions your family observes?
* You’ve written about Christmas before, how is this project different than your previous work on this topic?
* Why do you think Christmas is considered the most painful holiday?
* What is the value of seeing God’s face in Jesus?
* What value does God being human have to us—is it for us to know God, or for God to know us?
* How does Christmas capture the wonder we should carry all year long?
* What can we do to keep that wonder in our lives throughout the year?
* How does a Christmas tree represent our adoption as God’s children?
* How does Christmas begin what Easter celebrates?
* How does Jesus’ first coming point to his second—Bethlehem, act 2, as you call it?
* In what way does the “hassle” of Jesus’ birth give us hope for today?
* How does God communicate with us today in ways that are similar to the how he communicated with the Wise Men?
* How does our view of what is valuable differ from God’s, and how is that revealed in the Christmas story?
* The overall message of Christmas is God’s unbelievable love for us, and the lengths he would go to save us. How can we best demonstrate that to the world around us?

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**Guest**: Max Lucado, author, pastor

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