

## Advent Bible Study 1

Play Nooma DVD

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kM3qHBAekhg>

What do you think of what Rob Bell was speaking about?

Thinking back to the DVD...

How do you think that a rabbi only having the 'Best of the Best of the Best' fits in with Jesus's model of;

- a. being a Rabbi (teacher)
- b. the Messiah (the Anointed One)
- c. God's Son, our Saviour?

What does it say about those chosen by God the Father to nurture Jesus?

**READ: Matt 1: 18 - 23, Luke 1: 26 – 38. 2: 1 - 5.**

How do Joseph & Mary fit with being the 'Best of the Best of the Best'?

Where does this connect with you?

How does the idea of disciples choosing their Rabbi fit with Jesus's idea of this relationship? **READ John 15: 16.**

A Rabbi's disciples expected of themselves and it was expected by the Rabbi that his disciples would be able to know what he knows and do what he does.

How does this fit with how Jesus thinks of us? **READ John 14: 11 – 14.**

Think back again to the DVD – Rob Bell made mention of the 'yoke' of a Rabbi's teaching. This was the term used for the collected wisdom and teaching of any Rabbi and a disciple took it upon himself to bear this yoke as he wrestled to understand it – it could be life long process.

What does Jesus say of His 'yoke'? **READ Matt 11: 29**

I have for years always thought that this was an agricultural analogy, (cattle yoked together) not a direct reference by Jesus to his own teaching – How does this make you think of this passage now?

It could be argued that Jesus was in fact the ‘Best of the Best of the Best’ as He was the ‘Anointed One’ (the Messiah) of God **READ: Luke 3: 21 - 23**

In Advent, with the entire frantic hype heading towards Christmas, Christians can perhaps let themselves think that they have an exclusive hold of Christmas – the Christians have a holy attitude and others do not.

But as with Jesus himself – this is season of God calling all to the Christ-baby in the manger as He does all to Jesus Christ on the Cross

**READ: Luke 2: 13 – 15, John 12: 32 – 33**

Christians are all described as ‘jars of clay’ by Paul (**2 Corin 4:7**) something that has been moulded and formed – potentially very breakable and very fragile – yet Jesus calls us; He chooses us to be His disciples because he knows that we can be the ‘Best of the Best of the Best’.

Yet not because we can do this on our own but because Jesus knows that through his discipling of us we can fulfil His call – thus we become through God’s Grace, the ‘Best of the Best of the Best’ – an offer to all of humankind.