

30 A.D.

THE JESUS STORY

The Birth of the Messiah

Luke 2:1-20

THE INCARNATION

- ❶ TIME LOCK: 5-4 BC
- ❷ PLACE: Bethlehem
- ❸ POLITICAL CONTEXT: Roman Taxation Census

PRINCIPLE #1: God's sovereign power can work through any situation on earth.

PRINCIPLE #2: God is in ultimate control of every detail of your life.

- ❹ DIVINE CONTEXT: Arrival of the Savior (1 Cor. 1:27-29; Galatians 4:4)
- ❺ INITIAL RESPONSE: No room for Jesus

PRINCIPLE #3: In our fallen state, the arrival of Jesus is generally not seen as good news !

PRINCIPLE #4: Make appropriate room for Jesus Christ in your life!

- ❻ LOCAL CONTEXT: Shepherds & Angels
 - ▶ Shepherds living out in the fields
 - ▶ It was nighttime
 - ▶ One angel appears - Surrounded by glorious light
 - ▶ Announcement – The Savior/Messiah is born
 - ▶ Sign – Wrapped in clothes & placed in a feeding trough
 - ▶ Huge angelic company appears - Praising God
 - ▶ Shepherds find Jesus, praise God & spread the word
 - ▶ People who heard the news were amazed
 - ▶ Mary treasured this memory & often thought about it
- ▶ Luke 2:14 - *Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace to men on whom His favor rests.*

❖ Try to look at Christmas from God's perspective (Luke 2:14)

❖ Regularly cast your fears & anxieties upon God's shoulders (1 Peter 5:7; John 14:27)

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The Birth of the Savior

Sermons can be viewed online at creeksideeg.com/sermon

DISCOVER

Prepare to celebrate Jesus' birth

READ

Luke 1:1-20 Read the Christmas story aloud together.

The important word this week is "give/gift" God gave us a way to heaven. He gave us His son, Jesus. We give gifts this Christmas because God gave the first gift to us.

SHARE

When you are eating together as a family, go around the table and finish this sentence, "This Christmas I will give Jesus_____." Jesus wants you to give Him your heart, by making Him the boss of your life. He wants you to love Him and worship Him every day. How will you do that this season?

"Glorious Night" Sidewalk Prophets (song with Charlie Brown Christmas video)
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=M3ddnKIX9IE>

"Give This Christmas Away"- Matthew West (with Amy Grant)
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9BVGkb5bxRY>

PRAY

Dear God, I know the reason we have Christmas is to celebrate Your son's birth. You sent your only son Jesus because you love me so much. This Christmas season I want to remember that each time I give and receive a gift it's because we celebrate Jesus' birth. He was the greatest gift ever given! Thank you, Jesus for Christmas time where we can celebrate your birth! In Jesus' Name, Amen.

Family Advent
"The Birth of the Savior"
Luke 2:1-20



Memory Maker

Think about how you are spending your time together as a family. Is it watching TV or playing electronics. Instead of doing those activities, shut the TV off and spend some family time together. Often the best gift you can give is your time. Make hot chocolate and play a board game or cards together. Or put together a simple puzzle. Perhaps go to the playground and toss a ball or Frisbee together.

Digging Deeper

1. Why did Joseph and Mary go back to Bethlehem?
2. Why was Jesus placed in a manger?
3. What happened while the shepherds watched their sheep at night?
4. Why do you think the shepherds told everyone about Jesus?
5. Would you rather have been a shepherd or a wise man? Why?

Hands & Feet

Consider as a family how you can give to help Give back to God by reaching out to other families or orphans who need help. Wrap a special gift for someone in need. Make a gift tag for your package and write the words "Jesus is the best gift ever!" on the gift tag.

At Christmas time it is easy to think about "getting" instead of "giving." Allow your children to wrap a special gift for a friend or family member. Then make a gift tag for your package and write the words, "Jesus is the best gift ever!" on the gift tag.