

announcements

Baptism • November 23: Every week, remind your group about upcoming baptisms. Encourage them to let you know if they're interested in learning more about what the Bible teaches about baptism and what it means to take this step of obedience.

Family Worship • November 30

Christmas Eve • Thursday, December 24 • 2:00, 4:00, and 6:00 pm: Please encourage your folks to reserve their spot

No Sunday Services • December 28

Partner Class • January 25, 12:30-2:30pm: Where appropriate, challenge your group to make the commitment to the mission of North Rock Hill Church. At Partner Class they can learn about what it means to be an official NRHC Covenant Partner.

Matthew 1 and Luke 1

CONTEXT: In 2 Samuel 7, God promised David that his throne would be established forever and that one of his descendants would reign eternally. Centuries later, both Matthew 1 and Luke 1 show how that promise finds its fulfillment in Jesus. Matthew traces Jesus' royal lineage through David to emphasize His legal right to the throne. Luke records the angel's announcement to Mary that her Son will reign forever, linking the birth of Jesus directly to the covenant God made with David.

These passages remind us that God keeps His promises, even when fulfillment takes longer than expected. The covenant with David finds its ultimate meaning not in an earthly kingdom, but in the eternal reign of Christ. A reign that brings hope, peace, and salvation to all who trust in Him.

1. OPEN in prayer

2. WELCOME and **INTRODUCTIONS**

3. REVIEW the dgroup Guidelines

4. ASSIGN A STORYTELLER: Prearrange to have someone in the group tell the story. Give them these guidelines:

- Have the Bible open on your lap without reading it or looking at it. Say,

“this is the story from God’s Word.” This demonstrates reverence and authority for Scripture and makes it clear to others that this is not a made-up story, but rather is a story from God’s Word.

- Tell the story as accurately as possible without memorizing it or using notes.
- Avoid giving any personal comments or teaching about the story, the setting, or the meaning.

5. STORYTELLER TELLS THE STORY: Encourage the group to listen for anything that may stand out to them.

6. REBUILD THE STORY: Go around the room and have your group retell/rebuild the story. If your group knows they will be expected to rebuild the story, they will listen more closely and be more invested. Ask them what happened first to get started, then go through the group having everyone add details. This isn’t the time for the group to share their own commentary or opinion about the story. That comes later.

7. READ THE STORY: Have someone read the passage aloud from their Bible to ensure accuracy and reinforce key details.

8. DISCUSS THESE QUESTIONS:

- a. What do we learn about God from this passage?
- b. What do we learn about Man/Us from this passage?
- c. In this season of your life, which character do you relate to most, and why?
- d. In light of what you’ve learned today, what do you need to do to obey God?

9. OTHER QUESTIONS SPECIFIC TO THIS PASSAGE:

1. God’s promise to David was fulfilled in Jesus, but it took generations before it came to pass. Where in your life do you struggle to trust God’s timing or faithfulness to keep His promises? How do these passages strengthen your confidence that He will complete what He’s begun in you?
2. Jesus’ lineage comes through a very humble list of people and surprising stories of grace. Where do you doubt God’s ability to accomplish his will in your life? How can you respond to those thoughts with the truth we see in the story of David?

10. ASSIGN NEXT WEEK’S STORYTELLER: [Advent Series begins] Psalm 130