



Good Shepherd
Sermon-Based Study Guide

Luke 2:1-20 | Dec. 14, 2025

Prepared by DJ Severin

DJ@gspc.org | 562/493.2553 x 115

I. Introduction to this Study

This week in our Advent series *The Light of the World*, we look at **The Light Revealed**. This is the moment the long-promised Savior enters history. Luke tells the story with striking concreteness: real political leaders, real places, real people. The incarnation isn't myth or metaphor; it happened "*in those days*", in time, space, and flesh.

In this passage, five simple questions help us uncover the meaning of Christmas: **When? Where? Who? What? and Why?** Luke gives us the first four. The final question **Why?** draws us into the heart of the gospel.

II. Connecting with One Another

Think back to a moment when something suddenly "became real" for you, a marriage, parenthood, a diagnosis, a calling. What made the moment feel *real* rather than theoretical?

III. Study the Text

WHEN? (Read Luke 2:1–3)

- What does it mean to you that the incarnation is tied to verifiable history rather than legend?
- How does the contrast between worldly power (Caesar) and divine humility (the manger) strike you?

WHERE? (Read Luke 2:3–5; Micah 5:2)

- We read that Jesus was born in Bethlehem, in a manger. What does this tell us about how God often works—through unlikely places, people, or moments?

WHO? (Read Luke 2:4–9, 15–20)

Mary & Joseph



- What do we learn about their status, struggles, and faith?

The Shepherds

- Shepherds were socially insignificant. Why do you think God chose them as the first witnesses?
- What does this suggest about who hears the gospel most clearly?

The Angels

- Why is the appearance of the angels so striking compared to the simplicity of the manger?
- How does heaven's praise contrast with earth's indifference?

WHAT? (Read Luke 2:10–14, 16–20)

- The message is “good news of great joy...for all the people.” In what ways does it challenge narrow or exclusive visions of God's salvation?
- The shepherds respond by going, seeing, telling, and praising. Which of those verbs resonates most with your own faith right now?

WHY? — *Why the Word Became Flesh* (Read Luke 2:10–11)

- Pretend you have a friend that is a new Christian, and this new friend is trying to better understand the Gospel. How would you answer the question “Why was it necessary that Jesus was born?”

IV. Prayer

- Praise God for entering our world in humility and love.
- Thank Jesus for taking on a body “capable of death” so that we might share His life.
- Ask the Holy Spirit to help you see Christ clearly—the *Light revealed*—in this season.
- Pray for those who feel forgotten or overlooked, like the shepherds, that they might encounter the good news of great joy.

V. Digging Deeper

- **2 Samuel 7:8–16** — The Davidic Covenant.
- **John 1:1–14** — The Word becomes flesh and dwells among us.
- **Philippians 2:5–11** — The humility and exaltation of Christ.
- **Hebrews 2:14–18** — Why the Savior had to share our humanity.

