

Session 02

The Messiah **IS BORN**

CENTRAL TRUTH | Jesus is the true King who came humbly into the world.

More is better, right? At least that's what our culture often tells us. More power. More influence. More money. More followers. More, more, more. Our culture celebrates those who have more, and we often look up to people who have a lot of popularity and power. But in a world that rarely even talks about humility, it can be difficult to see why anyone would want to do anything humbly. Humble people aren't arrogant or rude, though; they're often kind, generous, and incredibly easy to be around. As we learn about Jesus's birth from lowly shepherds, we'll see that they weren't the only ones with humble beginnings: Jesus is the true King who came humbly into the world to save us.



REFLECT

What questions do I have about God?

What questions do I have about myself?

What questions do I have about the world and those around me?

LUKE 2:4-7

⁴ Joseph also went up from the town of Nazareth in Galilee, to Judea, to the city of David, which is called Bethlehem, because he was of the house and family line of David,⁵ to be registered along with Mary, who was engaged to him and was pregnant.⁶ While they were

there, the time came for her to give birth.

⁷ Then she gave birth to her firstborn son, and she wrapped him tightly in cloth and laid him in a manger, because there was no guest room available for them.

LUKE 2:8-15

⁸ In the same region, shepherds were staying out in the fields and keeping watch at night over their flock.⁹ Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified.¹⁰ But the angel said to them, “Don’t be afraid, for look, I proclaim to you good news of great joy that will be for all the people:¹¹ Today in the city of David a Savior was born for you, who is the Messiah, the Lord.¹² This will be the sign

for you: You will find a baby wrapped tightly in cloth and lying in a manger.”¹³ Suddenly there was a multitude of the heavenly host with the angel, praising God and saying:¹⁴ Glory to God in the highest heaven, and peace on earth to people he favors!¹⁵ When the angels had left them and returned to heaven, the shepherds said to one another, “Let’s go straight to Bethlehem and see what has happened, which the Lord has made known to us.”

LUKE 2:16-20

¹⁶ They hurried off and found both Mary and Joseph, and the baby who was lying in the manger.¹⁷ After seeing them, they reported the message they were told about this child,¹⁸ and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds said to them.¹⁹ But Mary was

treasuring up all these things in her heart and meditating on them.²⁰ The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all the things they had seen and heard, which were just as they had been told.

Day01

MICAH 5:2



Refer to page 5 for a description of the 7 Arrows of Bible Reading.

📍 READ & RESPOND

The first time the Bible mentions Bethlehem is in Genesis: It was the burial place for Jacob’s beloved wife, Rachel (see Gen. 35:19). Bethlehem was a small, almost forgotten village. It was humble, “small among the clans of Judah.” Yet God chose this unlikely place for the most significant event in history—the King of kings would come from this small town! Micah gave this prophecy hundreds of years before Jesus’s birth. God often chooses the overlooked and seemingly insignificant to do His greatest work. True greatness isn’t always found in what the world values. It’s found in God’s perfect plan and His unexpected choices.

↑ What does Micah 5:2 reveal about God’s power and foresight?

→ How can God use small or unexpected things in your life for His purposes?

↔ How can you remind someone in your life of God’s faithfulness this week?

📍 MEMORIZE

Copy **Luke 2:11** onto three to five note cards and tape them in places you see every day, like the bathroom mirror, your closet, or the back of your phone. Every time you see one of these cards, read it to yourself or out loud.

📍 PRAY

Heavenly Father, thank You for the birth of Your Son Jesus. Help us to remember that You often work in unexpected ways and that true greatness comes from You.

Day **02**

LUKE 2:4-7

📍 READ & RESPOND

Mary and Joseph were required to travel from Nazareth to Bethlehem. And this is where Jesus was born. Not with a fancy new crib or a comfortable bed—the Son of God was born in a humble setting and laid in an animal feeding trough. This wasn't a mistake—it was part of God's perfect plan. The King of kings deserved every display of luxury imaginable, but instead, He came to us in humility. His kingdom is not about earthly power or comfort, but about love, sacrifice, and humility.

↓ What do Mary and Joseph's responses to these challenging circumstances teach us about faith and obedience?

→ Have you ever experienced a situation where plans fell apart or things didn't go as expected? How can this passage encourage you in those moments?

↑ What does Jesus's humble birth in Bethlehem tell you about His character?

📍 MEMORIZE

Create a graphic of **Luke 2:11** using a photo editor app. Set this graphic as your background or lock screen this week.

📍 PRAY

Gracious Father, thank You for the incredible story of Jesus's birth, reminding us that Your plans are always perfect, even when they seem unexpected or inconvenient.

Day 03

LUKE 2:8-15

📍 READ & RESPOND

Have you ever felt overlooked? It's easy to feel insignificant sometimes. That's how these shepherds probably felt a lot of the time. But the people who received the first announcement of the Savior's birth weren't kings or priests. God sent His angels straight to these overlooked shepherds. Jesus's birth announcement wasn't a private affair for the elite; it was a cosmic concert for the common. The sign wasn't a royal crib, but a baby wrapped in cloths, lying in a feeding trough. This shows us something profound about Jesus: He came for everyone, especially those who might feel forgotten or unimportant.

← How did the shepherds react at first? How did their reaction change?

↑ What is the significance of God choosing the shepherds first, rather than more powerful or respected people?

→ How can this passage challenge how you view and treat others?

📍 MEMORIZE

Create a "mind map." Write **Luke 2:11** in the center of a piece of paper, and around it, write at least five write key words, concepts, or images related to the verse.

📍 PRAY

Jesus, You came in such humble circumstances, and You came for people who were not powerful or important. When I'm feeling overlooked, remind me that You see me and that You love me.

Day **04**

LUKE 2:16-20

📍 READ & RESPOND

After such a magnificent display of power, the shepherds hurried off and found exactly what the angel had described: Jesus, the newborn Savior, in the manger. The long-awaited Savior was here at last! What did they do next? They told everybody what they had seen. They couldn't keep this incredible experience to themselves! And then they returned, glorifying and praising God. Their meeting with the baby Jesus changed them. This passage shows us the natural progression of encountering Jesus: We seek Him, we find Him, we share Him, and we worship Him. The good news of Jesus's birth is too amazing to keep quiet!

↓ What does the phrase "they hurried off" tell us about the shepherds?

↻ How did finding Jesus exactly as the angel described impact the shepherds and those who heard their story?

→ How did the shepherds' encounter with Jesus change them? What can we learn from their response of "glorifying and praising God"?

📍 MEMORIZE

Use a notes app on your phone and create a quick reference note for **Luke 2:11**. Set yourself a reminder to look at it a couple of times each day.

📍 PRAY

Heavenly Father, thank You for the gift of Jesus. Help us to seek You with eagerness, to share Your good news with boldness, and to always return to You with hearts full of praise and glory.

Day 05

PHILIPPIANS 1:5-11

📍 READ & RESPOND

God is making you more and more like Jesus every single day. And He isn't just going to start this work in you; He's going to complete it! He is actively refining your thoughts and transforming your desires to reflect His Son. Today's passage shows us what this growth looks like through love, discernment, and spiritual fruit. As God works in us, we learn to embody Jesus's humble, serving heart and reflect His kingship through love and righteousness. You are a living testimony to God's goodness.

🔄 What specific qualities does Paul pray for in verses 9-11?

↑ What does God's commitment to "carry it on to completion" reveal about His faithfulness and His power?

→ How can the idea that God is not done with you yet encourage you when you feel like you're struggling or not measuring up?

📍 MEMORIZE

Write **Luke 2:11** five times on a piece of paper. Use a different color pen or marker for all of the nouns (the people, places, and things).

📍 PRAY

Glorious Father, I want to be more like Your Son. Complete Your work in me. Sanctify me into the person You're making me to be.