

Christmas Bible Study 2025

Week 3

Day 1: Read Luke 2:21-39

1. What occurred on the 8th day after the birth of the Messiah? Why is this significant? Do you have questions about this? Can you find other scriptures that help answer those questions?
2. Read Leviticus 12:1-8 and compare it to Luke 2:22-24. What do you learn from this?
3. Who is Simeon? What was he waiting for? Who was upon him?
4. How does Simeon respond when he sees Jesus?
5. How do Mary and Joseph respond and what does Simeon say to Mary? How does this prophecy come true in the future? Use scripture to support your answer.
6. Who is Anna and how did she serve God?
7. Verse 38 tells us that she gave thanks to God and spoke of Jesus to all who looked for redemption? How can you do these two things this Christmas season? Who would you like to speak to about Jesus? Pray for that opportunity to present itself by the power of the Holy Spirit.

Day 2: Read Matthew 2:1-18

1. In verses 1-2 who came? When did they come? Where did they go? Why did they come?
2. Herod is the most sinister “character” in the Christmas narrative. He was an entirely real person in history and his evil motives and deeds are among the most despicable acts this world has ever known. What did he do and why did he do it?
3. Trying to eliminate Jesus did not end with Herod. How do you see this continuing to happen in our day?
4. Re-read verses 9-12. What stands out to you most in these verses? Why?
5. Giving gifts is a prominent part of our Christmas celebrations culturally. It likely stems from the gifts given to the Christ child by these wise men. Do you like giving gifts? Why or why not? What gifts can you bring to Jesus this Christmas season?
6. What happens after the Wise Men leave? What prophecies are fulfilled by these events?

Day 3: Read John 1:1-18

1. Matthew, Mark and Luke present the life of Jesus in similar formats. They focus on what Jesus taught and did. John focuses more on *who Jesus is*. How does John do this in these verses?
2. John refers to Jesus as The Word. What do we learn about The Word in verses 1-5? Why is this important?
3. Read John 8:12. What does Jesus say about Himself? How does this connect with today's passage of scripture?
4. Lights are a prominent part of Christmas celebrations. How does this point to Jesus?
5. Read Matthew 5:14 and Ephesians 5:8. What does it say? How can you "shine your light" this Christmas season?
6. Reread John 1:14. What is he declaring about the Word? How does this minister to you today?
7. What was He full of? How do these two things balance and compliment each other? Are grace and truth balanced in your life? Why or why not?

Day 4: Read Isaiah 9:6 and Isaiah 53

1. This verse in Isaiah is one of the most obvious and well-known Messianic prophecies. It would have been very familiar to devout Jewish people such as Simeon, Anna, Mary, Joseph, Elizabeth, Zacharias, and even the shepherds and the wise men. How might this have shaped their expectations of what was to come in the life of Jesus?
2. On a personal level, how has Jesus manifested Himself in your life in the ways He is described by this prophecy? If it is a struggle for you to identify how Jesus has been these things in your life, ask Him to reveal Himself to you in these specific ways.
 - a. Wonderful
 - b. Counselor
 - c. Mighty God
 - d. Everlasting Father
 - e. Prince of Peace
3. Jewish people did not see Isaiah 53 as a Messianic prophecy. They were not expecting a suffering servant. How did the death of Jesus fulfill these prophecies?
4. Jesus's birth was His first coming. He is coming again... He will come in power and fulfill much of what the Jews were expecting the first time. Find scriptures that convey truths about the second coming of Jesus.

Day 5: Review and reflect

Spend some time reflecting on and worshipping the Lord as you meditate on all that we have covered.

No one knew all that would transpire when the Word became flesh and dwelt among us. Everyone involved responded with awe and wonder at the work God was doing but the work that Jesus would accomplish in his death and resurrection was not what they expected.

We see it all through different eyes. We see it as saints and children of God, redeemed by our loving Savior. We see why He came and what he accomplished. At Christmas we celebrate the gift of our salvation.

In some ways, however, we can still relate to the anticipation and wonder that was experienced when Jesus first entered the world because the story is not finished and although scripture makes many things clear, we don't know exactly how it will all play out when Jesus returns again.

Take some time to pray today with these specific goals in mind.

1. Thank God for the gift of salvation through Jesus.
2. Ask God to ignite or revive an excitement in you for His return.
3. Ask God to reveal things to you in His Word that will equip you to be ready for His return.
4. Pray for people who are not ready for His return.

Take some time to worship today and consider the following worship recommendation...

Handel's Messiah is often performed at Christmas time, especially the portion known as the Hallelujah Chorus. This composition is one of the most amazing musical accomplishments in existence. All of the lyrics are scripture. It combines and intertwines scripture from the Old and New Testaments to tell of Christ's birth, death, resurrection and subsequent coming. Take some time to listen to it (or read through it if it isn't something that appeals to your musical tastes) and appreciate this worshipful masterpiece. To compare it to our worship songs of today seems silly because of the magnitude of its musical genius but it truly is one of the most beautiful worship "songs" ever composed.

Dear Lord, may we seek to live lives of worship that bring You the glory and honor that You are due. May Your Word and the power of the Holy Spirit do a work in our hearts this season that is far beyond what we would have thought possible. May that work spill over into the lives of those around us so they will also be touched by your love. We pray this in the name of Jesus, Amen.