

Christmas Mini Bible Study 1 | Luke 2: 8-20

8 And in the same region there were **shepherds** out in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night. 9 And an angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were filled with great fear. 10 And the angel said to them, "Fear not, for behold, I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people.

11 For unto you is born this day in the **city of David** a Savior, who is Christ the Lord. 12 And this will be a sign for you: you will find a baby wrapped in swaddling cloths and **lying in a manger**."

13 And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God and saying,

14 "Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace among those with whom he is pleased!"

15 When the angels went away from them into heaven,

the shepherds said to one another, "Let us go over to **Bethlehem** and see this thing that has happened, which the Lord has made known to us." 16 And they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the baby **lying in a manger**.

17 And when they saw it, they made known the saying that had been told them concerning this child. 18 And all who heard it wondered at what the shepherds told them. 19 But Mary treasured up all these things, pondering them in her heart. 20 And the **shepherds** returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.

Questions

v.9 – How did the shepherds react to the angel initially?

v.10 – What was the angel's message to the shepherds?

vv.17, 20 – How did the shepherds react after seeing the baby?

Christmas Mini Bible Study 2 | Matthew 2: 1-12

1 Now after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea in the days of Herod the king, behold, wise men from the east came to Jerusalem,

2 saying, "Where is he who has been born king of the Jews? For we saw his star when it rose and have come to worship him."

3 When Herod the king heard this, he was troubled, and all Jerusalem with him; 4 and assembling all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Christ was to be born. 5 They told him, "In Bethlehem of Judea, for so it is written by the prophet:

6 "And you, O Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, are by no means least among the rulers of Judah; for from you shall come a ruler who will shepherd my people Israel."

7 Then Herod summoned the wise men secretly and ascertained from them what time the star had appeared. 8 And he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, "Go and search diligently for the child, and when you have found him, bring me word, that I too may come and worship him." 9 After listening to the king, they went on their way.

And behold, the star that they had seen when it rose went before them until it came to rest over the place where the child was. 10 When they saw the star, they rejoiced exceedingly with great joy. 11 And going into the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother, and they fell down and worshiped him. Then, opening their treasures, they offered him gifts, gold and frankincense and myrrh.

12 And being warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they departed to their own country by another way.

Questions

v.3 – Why do you think Herod was troubled?

v.12 – Why were the wise men warned not to return to Herod?

Christmas Mini Bible Study 3 | Matthew 2: 13-21

13 Now when they had departed, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a **dream** and said, "Rise, take the child and his mother, and flee to **Egypt**, and remain there until I tell you, for Herod is about to search for the child, to destroy him." 14 And he rose and took the child and his mother by night and departed to Egypt 15 and remained there until the death of Herod.

This was to **fulfill** what the Lord had spoken by the prophet, "Out of Egypt I called my son."

16 Then Herod, when he saw that he had been tricked by **the wise men**, became furious, and he sent and killed all the male children in Bethlehem and in all that region who were two years old or under, according to the time that he had ascertained from **the wise men**.

17 Then was **fulfilled** what was spoken by the prophet Jeremiah: 18 "A voice was heard in Ramah, weeping and loud lamentation, Rachel weeping for her children; she refused to be comforted, because they are no more."

19 But when Herod died, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared in a **dream** to Joseph in Egypt, 20 saying, "Rise, take the child and his mother and go to the land of **Israel**, for those who sought the child's life are dead." 21 And he rose and took the child and his mother and went to the land of Israel.

Questions

v.16 – The wise men did not return to Herod after seeing Jesus in Bethlehem. How did Herod respond?

v.13-15, 19-21 – How was Jesus protected from Herod?