

At Home Study Guide

For the week of December 21, 2014

Luke 2:14

Quick Review: It is easy to get caught up in the hustle and bustle of Christmas while forgetting the reason we celebrate. For many, the sentimentalism of the season is all consuming: trees, gifts, baking, family, shopping, laughter, and music. To some, their schedules will overflow with office parties, Christmas cards, and treats. For others, the season will remind them of their losses, hurts, and brokenness. For all, we have an opportunity to be reminded of the overwhelming grace of God made manifest in the person of Jesus. His entrance into the world through a young couple in a barn 2,000 years ago is underwhelming. Without much fanfare, Jesus' birth was announced to the most humble of people, the shepherds. This announcement reflects the beauty of the gospel that Jesus came to seek and save the lost. The invitation to believe is the same invitation we preach 2,000 years later. Believe in the lord Jesus and be saved.

My Story

- What is one of your favorite Christmas presents of all time?
- Who in your house reads the Christmas story to the family?
- What is a favorite Christmas tradition you share with family or friends?

Growing Deeper

- Read Luke 2:1-21. As you have time, reflect on this story from one or two perspectives. What would it have been like to be Joseph, Mary or one of the shepherds as this story unfolds?
- In 2:10, the angels announce that good news has come for all people. What do these three scriptures teach about the scope of this good news:
 - John 3:16
 - 1 Timothy 2:4
 - 2 Peter 3:9
- How is the peace announced in Luke 2:10 narrowed in focus in 2:14? We that this peace is offered to those with whom God is pleased. How do these three passages speak of peace in Christ:
 - John 14:27
 - Ephesians 2:11-3:13
 - Hebrews 11:6