



Birth of Jesus Luke 1:26-38 Matt. 1:18-25

\* The Angel Gabriel went to Mary.

Greetings, you are highly favored.

Mary greatly concerned, what could this be about?

Do not be afraid -- you have found favor w/ God.

you will give birth to a son!

He will reign in his kingdom forever, it will never end.

How can this be? (I am not married!!) Thru H.S.

No word from God will ever fail.

I am the Lord's servant. "May your word to me be fulfilled." Then the angel left her. \* (Her CHARACTER: FAITH)

MATT.  
1:19

Joseph's Concerns: Wife to be, was going to have a child.

He did not want to expose her to public disgrace

He had in mind to break the engagement. Quietly

An Angel appeared to him in a dream.

Do not be afraid to take Mary as your wife

She is with child thru the Holy Spirit.

She will give birth to a baby boy. Name will be Jesus.

He will save his people from their sins!

When Joseph woke up, he did what the angel said

\* (Shows great character and faith on his part)  
same as Mary

Stere - Lesson 1-6

## "Shepherds" Luke 2:1-19

from Nazareth

- Joseph & Mary were traveling to Bethlehem to participate in a required Census.  
(you had to go to your own town to register)

\* Other wise who would want to make a trip on a donkey. Especially while pregnant.

- While they were there the time came for the Baby to be born. (due to the fact that hundreds of people were there to register there was no room in the inn.)

- In a barn she gave birth to Jesus and wrapped him in clothes and placed him in a manger.

There were shepherds in a field near by watching over their flocks at night.

- An angel appeared to them and the glory of the Lord shone around them, they were "terrified" ---

- Don't be afraid, I have good news, today in the town of David / Bethlehem a savior has been born.

Luke 2:12 - you will find a baby wrapped in clothes and will be lying in a manger.

- When the angels left, they said let's go to Bethlehem and see this thing that has happened.

- They hurried off and found Mary, Joseph & the baby - lying in the manger just as the angel said.

- after they saw him, they spread the word the angel told them about the child.

- "He is the Messiah the Lord"!

## Magi Come Matt 2:1-18

- Where is the one who has been born King of Jews? "We saw his star". They came from east to Jerusalem
- King Herod quite disturbed... "I am the King"
- Herod called the teachers of the law. Where is the messiah to be born? In Bethlehem!
- They said... the prophets had written: Out of Bethlehem will come a ruler, who will shepherd my people. (Jesus was causing quite a stir even as a baby)!
- Herod asked, When did you see the star?
- When you find him let me know. I want to worship him also!
- they went on their way -- "the star they saw led them to the place the child was." (approx 2 YRS old)
- Coming to the house they saw the child they bowed down and worshipped him.
- presented gifts, gold, frankincense & Myrrh (Gifts fitting for a King - not necessarily a child)
- In a dream do not go back to Herod -
- Angel tells Joseph to go to Egypt -- Herod is searching for the child to kill him
- Matt 2:16 Herod realizing he was outwitted was furious!
- Gave order to kill all boys in & around Bethlehem two years old and younger. "Estimating time of Jesus birth from the time the wise men saw star"
- After Herod died, an angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream... get up and go to Israel because those wanting to kill him are dead!

## Questions, Lesson one "Birth of Jesus"

1. Who did God send to Mary? What did he say?  
greetings, you who ARE Highly favored... the Lord is with you.
  2. What was Mary's reaction? Greatly Troubled.
  3. What would your reaction be?
  4. What did the angel tell her? Would have a son, he will reign in his kingdom forever.
  5. What was Mary's concern? I'm not married!!
  6. What was her response when everything was explained to her? I am the Lord's servant may it be as you have said.  
(Faith)
- MATT  
1:19
- Joseph's concerns:
7. Why was Joseph going to put Mary away?
  8. What kind of man do you think Joseph was? Why?
  9. What did the angel say to Joseph in dream?  
Don't be afraid to take Mary home, she is with child from the Holy Spirit. Call him Jesus.
  10. What did Joseph do when he woke up?  
took her home as his wife... she gave birth.
  11. What does this say about Joseph?  
(Faith)

## Birth of Christ -- Questions

12 Why did Joseph and Mary leave Nazareth and go to Bethlehem when she was so far along in her pregnancy?

90 mile, 5 day trip

"Shepherds visit." Luke 2:8 "Questions"

1. Who appeared to the shepherds?
2. What was their reaction?
3. What did the angel tell them? a savior has been born
4. Where did he tell them they would find Jesus?
5. Why was Jesus born in a barn / manger?
6. What is a manger?
7. What did they do when the angels left? they had faith enough to go to Bethlehem.
8. after they saw him what did they do?  
(A.) spread the word about what they had been told about Jesus.  
(B.) they returned home glorifying God.

## Magi / Wise Men

14. Who appeared to Joseph in a dream?
15. What was his message? "take the child and his mother and go to Egypt."
16. What has Herod realized by now?
17. What did Herod order to be done?

Why?





## Lesson 2

"Birth of John" Luke 1:5-25

- In the time of King Herod in Judah there was a priest named Zechariah & his wife was Elizabeth.
- They were both blameless in God's sight.
- They had no children because Elizabeth was barren.
- They were both very old.
- Zechariah was serving in the temple burning incense  
\* Assembled worshippers had gathered outside & were praying  
Gabriel an angel of the Lord appeared to him.
- Zechariah <sup>was</sup> startled and gripped with fear.
- Do not be afraid, your prayer has been heard.

Your wife Elizabeth will bear you a son  
you are to call him John.

1. He will be great in the sight of the Lord and
2. He will be filled with the Holy Spirit even before he is born.
3. He will go before the Lord in the Spirit to prepare the way for him.

## "The Birth of John the Baptist" Luke 1:5-25

- Zechariah asked the angel, "How can I be sure of this? I am an old man and my wife is well along in years also."
  - I am Gabriel. I stand in the presence of God. I have been sent to tell you this good news.
  - Now, you will be unable to speak until the child is born because you did not believe my words.... which will come true at the appointed time!
- People were wondering what was taking Zechariah so long in the temple.
- When he came out he was unable to speak to them.
  - They realized he had seen a vision in the temple. He kept making signs to them but remained unable to speak.
  - \* After his Temple duties are complete.. he goes home
  - after this his wife Elizabeth became pregnant. She remained secluded for 5 mos. the Lord HAS TAKEN my disgrace AWAY.
  - when it was time she gave birth to a son. relatives and friends shared in her joy.

## "Birth of John"

Luke 1:57-66

- On the eighth day when they came to circumcise him they were going to name him after his father Zechariah.
- Elizabeth speaks up and says NO!  
He is to be called John!
- they said you have no relatives by that name.
- they made signs to his father to ask what he wanted to name his son.
- He asked for a writing tablet --- his name is John.  
they were astonished!
- Immediately his mouth was opened and he began to speak and praise God.
- all the neighbors were filled with awe and all the hill country of Judaea.
- Everyone who heard about this wondered about it, what is this child going to be?  
For the Lord's hand is with him.

"Destined to do great things"

## Birth of

### Lesson 2 - "Questions" John the Baptist

1. What was Zechariah's position? Priest and who was his wife?
2. What kind of people were they? Righteous / following Lord's commands & Blameless
3. Why did they have no children?
4. How old were Zechariah & Elizabeth?
5. Where was Zechariah when the angel appeared to him? What was he doing?
6. What was Zechariah's reaction?
7. What did the angel say to him? Don't be AFRAID. your prayers have been heard.
8. What did the angel say about John? He would be a Joy & delight. will be great in the sight of the Lord.
9. What was Zechariah's response? How CAN I be sure?
10. What was the consequence of his response? Why? What happened to him when he was in doubt?
11. What were the people wondering about while Zechariah was in the temple taking so long?
12. When he finally came out of the temple what did they realize?

## Birth of John Baptist Questions

- 13 What did the people want to name him and why?
- 14 What did Elizabeth say his name was?
- 15 What did the people say?
- 16 How did Zechariah let them know what his son's name would be?
- 17 What happened immediately after that?
- 18 What did he say when he was able to speak?  
promised!  
God!
- 19 What was the people's reaction to what they had just witnessed? 5.
- 20 What were their thoughts about the child?

## Lesson 2. "John the Baptist" Preaching Matt 3:1-12

- John the baptist came preaching in the wilderness of judaea.
- He was telling them to repent, the kingdom of heaven is near.
- this was a prophecy - from Isaiah .. 40:3  
a voice of one calling in the wilderness  
preparing the way for the Lord.
- John's clothes were made of camel hair, leather belt.
- John ate locusts and wild honey. (Curious?)
- People came from all over to see him. Confessing their sins and being baptized in the Jordan
- Pharisees and Sadducees (Jewish Religious Leaders) showed up. these two groups did not like each other. They both opposed Jesus and his claim to be the Messiah because he did not follow their Jewish traditions.
- John called them a brood of vipers!
- John baptized with water for repentance

Matth 3:1-12

- John says there comes one after me more powerful -- whose sandals I am not worthy to carry.

- He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire.

Acts 2:1-3

When the day of Pentecost came, they were all together in one place.<sup>2</sup> Suddenly a sound like the blowing of a violent wind came from heaven and filled the whole house where they were sitting.<sup>3</sup> They saw what seemed to be tongues of fire come to rest on each one of them; all of them were filled with the Holy Spirit.



1 Where was John preaching at?

2 What was he telling them to do?

3 This was a prophecy from what O.T. Book? <sup>Isaiah</sup> 40:3

4 What was that prophecy? "out of the wilderness a voice Preparing the way for the Lord"

5 What was a little odd about John?

6 What was John doing for these people coming to see him? What was John's baptism for?

7 Who else showed up to see John? <sup>Pharisees</sup> Sadducees

8 Who were they exactly? Jewish Religious Leaders

9 What did they have to say? opposed him - didn't follow the law

10 What did John call them? a brood of vipers, who weren't willing to repent and they wanted to be the religious leaders.

11 John was baptizing with water. What did he say Jesus would be baptizing with?

## "Death of John the baptist" Matt 14:3-12

1. Herod has John arrested, because John told Herod that it was not lawful for him to have his brother's wife. (John's in prison)
- \* Philip's Wife Herodias had left Philip, (Herod's 1/2 brother) to live with Herod as wife
2. Herod wanted to kill John, but he was afraid of the people, because they thought of him as a prophet.
3. On Herod's birthday Herodias' daughter danced for Herod and his guests.
4. She pleased Herod so much that he promised her anything she wanted.
5. Unsure what she should ask for, She asks her mother Herodias what she should ask for.
6. Prompted by her mother she said, "Give me the head of John the baptist on a platter".
7. Herod was greatly stressed, because of his oath and his dinner guests, he ordered that her request be granted, and had John beheaded.
8. John's head was presented to the girl & her mother.

Questions - John's death Matt. 14:3-12

1. Why did Herod have John arrested and put in prison?
2. What did Herod want to do to John?
3. What was Herod's concern about killing John?
4. What event was Herod celebrating?
5. Who danced at Herod's banquet for him and his guests? Herodias's daughter. Who was Herodias's  
His bro. Philip's wife
6. Was Herod pleased with her performance?
7. How do we know?
8. What did she ask for? Why?
9. What was Herod's reaction?
10. What did Herod then do?
11. What did John's disciples do?

When they told Jesus, he went by boat to a solitary place.



### Lesson 3. "The Baptism of Jesus" Matt. 3:13-16

1. Jesus came from Galilee to be baptized by John.
2. John says I need to be baptized by you! yet you come to me? I am not worthy!
3. Jesus said... "lets do this now". It is proper to do this to, "fulfill all righteousness".

\* John had been explaining that Jesus baptism would be far greater than his. Suddenly Jesus comes to him to be baptized. John felt very unqualified to baptize Jesus. Why did Jesus ask to be baptized? Not for repentance because he had no sin... But

\* To "fulfill all righteousness", means to accomplish God's mission. By being baptized he is showing support for John's work.

(John agrees and baptizes Jesus)

4. As soon as Jesus came up out of the water he saw heaven being opened and the Spirit of God descending like a dove and alighting on him.
  5. Then a voice from heaven said "This is my son whom I love and am well pleased".
- \* Think of it God saying, "I am well pleased"!

Should be nothing greater than to obey God's will!

Matt. 3:13-16

\* Jesus was baptized because --

1. He was confessing sin on behalf of the nation - just as Nehemiah, Ezra, Moses & Daniel had done.
2. He was showing support for what John was doing.
3. He was the beginning of his public ministry.

Continued →

4. He was identifying with the repentant people of God, not with the critical pharisees who were watching and criticizing him. (NOT repenting)
5. Jesus the perfect man / Son of God did not need to be baptized because of sin, but he accepted baptism in obedient service to the Father --- and God showed his approval!

God's spirit in the form of a dove alighting on Jesus.

"This is my son whom I love and am well pleased."

What would God say about us?  
What have we chosen to do?

Lesson 3. "Jesus being tempted in wilderness" Matt 4:1-11

1. Jesus was led by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil. God allows us to be Tempted. Rem. Job?
2. after fasting for forty days and forty nights he was hungry: (understatement)
3. Satan said if you are the son of God, tell these stones to become bread.
4. Jesus reply -- Man does not live by bread alone. but by every word from the mouth of God. (Physical) Needs (Spiritual) Needs
5. Satan took him to the holy city - Jerusalem. and took him to the highest point of the temple.  
Note \* the temple was the tallest structure in the area. "the highest point" from this point Jesus could see all of Jerusalem and the country side for miles.
6. If you are the son of God -- throw yourself down. for it is written: Psalm 91:11-12 He will command his angels concerning you, that they will lift you up in their hands, so that you will not strike your foot against a stone. (Satan knows Script.)
7. Jesus answers, it is also written --- Deut. 6:16 "Do not put the Lord your God to the test"!
8. Again the devil took him to a very high mountain and showed him all the kingdoms of the world. and their splendor.



9. "all this I will give you", "if you will bow down and worship me".
10. Jesus said to him, Away from me Satan! for it is written: "Worship the Lord your God, and serve him only"
11. The devil left him, and the angels came and attended him.

The devil, also called satan tempted Eve in the garden, here he is tempting Jesus in the desert. Satan is a fallen angel, real not a symbolic figure.

This temptation shows the human side of Jesus unlike Eve Jesus did not give in. Temptation is not sin. We sin when we give in and disobey God.

Jesus wasn't tempted in the temple or at his baptism --- but in the desert where he was tired, alone and hungry and the most vulnerable.

Satan tempts us when we are in a vulnerable state --- under physical or emotional stress. He knows our weakness. --- he can also use our strengths. Being successful can make us self-sufficient. Wow look what I was able to do! We must be on guard at all times.

Satan's temptations often focus in three critical areas:

1. Physical needs & desires
2. possessions and power
3. pride

Jesus did not give in! <sup>WE MAY THINK...</sup> (Well, no wonder, HE is Jesus)

\* Hebrews 4:15

For we do not have a high priest who is unable to empathize with our weakness, but we have one who has been tempted in every way just as we are, yet he did not sin.

Jesus was weak and hungry after fasting 40 days, he chose not to use his divine power for food. He made correct decision..

Remember Esau? (He wasn't fasting)

Jesus was able to resist Satan because he not only knew scripture but obeyed. Satan had memorized scripture but failed to obey it. We need to know and obey scriptures, in order to follow God's desires for us rather than follow Satan.

The temple was the religious center of the Jewish nation, and where they expected the messiah to arrive. Malachi 3:1 temple was tallest building in the area. you could see all Jerusalem and all the country for miles.

Mountain Even higher -- See the kingdoms of the world.

God is not our magician in the sky to perform on request.

We may want God to do something to prove his existence or his love for you. God wants us to live by faith not by magic. Do not try to manipulate God. Do not test the Lord your God

Think Did the devil have the power to give Jesus the kingdoms of the world?

Didn't God the creator of the world, have control over these kingdoms?

The devil may have been lying about his implied power or his temporary control and free rein over the earth because of the sinful nature of man.

\* Satan was trying to distort Jesus' perspective by making him focus on worldly power and not on God's plane.

The devil offered the whole world to Jesus if he would bow down and worship him. Today the devil offers us the world by trying to entice us with materialism and power. We need to resist Satan ---

\* Worship the Lord your God and serve Him only!  
Ten commandments Ex. 20 No other Gods before me,

### Lesson 3 "Jesus Baptism and Temptations" Questions

1. Where did Jesus come from to be baptised? Gal.
2. What was John's response when Jesus asked him to baptize him?
3. What did Jesus say to John? to FULFILL ALL Righteousness
4. What happened when Jesus came up out of the water?
5. What did the voice from heaven say?

### "Jesus being tempted" Questions

1. Where was Jesus tempted? Who led him there?
2. How long did Jesus fast? How was he feeling?
3. What did Satan ask Jesus to do? stones to bread
4. What did Jesus say? cannot live by bread alone -- physical life temporary
5. Where did Satan take Jesus after that? Temple
6. What did Satan ask Jesus to do? Jump
7. Does Satan know scripture? How do we know?
8. What did Jesus say to him? (Deut 6:16)  
do not put the Lord your God to the test.

9. When where did Satan take Jesus? Why?  
To a very High MT. To show him the Kingdoms of the world - splendor
10. What was Jesus' reply? AWAY FROM ME SATAN 4 it is written  
Worship the Lord Your God & serve him only
11. What happened to Jesus when Satan left him?  
ANGELS ATTENDED HIM..
12. What lesson do we learn from this event  
in the life of Christ?



## Lesson 4 Twelve Apostles Matt. 10

MATT 10: 1-15

1. Jesus appointed 12 apostles, he didn't force them or ask them to volunteer in a special way. He has chosen us. We can choose to follow or remain behind. When Christ calls us how should we respond?

2. Jesus called his apostles and gave them authority to cast out demons & unclean spirits, and to heal every disease & sickness.

3. Here are the names of the 12 Disciples: MATT. 10:2

Simon (who is called Peter), his bro. Andrew, James son of Zebedee, and his bro. John. Philip and Bartholomew, Thomas and Matthew the tax collector, James son of alphaeus, <sup>thaddaeus</sup> Simon the zealot and Judas Iscariot who betrayed him.

4. He sent them out 2 x 2 telling them go to the lost sheep (people) of Israel and Proclaim the Kingdom of heaven is near. Heal the sick and raise the dead, heal those who have leprosy and drive out demons.

MATT 10:9 Do not take anything with you, no money, gold or silver, no extra shirt or sandals. The things you need will be given to you. The worker is worth his keep.

6. When you enter a town, find a home to stay in. If they welcome you let your peace be on that house -- (A blessing) 1.



7. If anyone does not welcome you into their home or town... shake the dust from your feet and leave that home / town.  
(Do not waste your time) (go to notes) (\*)

Matt. 10: 16

8. Preparing disciples for persecution:  
\*\* I am sending you out like sheep among wolves.

- 9 Be on your guard... you will be flogged in the synagogues.

- 10 When you are arrested do not worry about what to say. The Spirit of God will speak through you.

- 11 you will be hated because of your teaching...  
- But the one who stands firm to the end will be saved.

- 12 Do not be afraid of those who can kill the body, but cannot kill the soul.

- 13 rather fear the one who can kill the body and soul and fall to the fiery pit.

14. not a single sparrow falls to the ground that God does not know about. you are much more important to God. He even knows how many hairs are on your head

15. Who ever acknowledges me to others I will acknowledge before my father in heaven.

16. Who ever disowns me I will disown before my father in heaven.
17. Anyone who loves their mother or father more than me, is not Worthy of me. J-O-Y
18. Take up your cross and follow me...  
Those who do not are not worthy of me.  
\* we should have different values and goals, morals and purposes - that set us apart from others.
19. If anyone gives even just a cup of cold water to someone in my name they will not lose their reward.  
See - Notes (\*\*)

(\*)

Matt. 10:1-16 "Jesus sends out the 12 apostles"

Jesus calls us today. Just as the 12 were called. We have freedom to choose

The list of the 12 don't give us many details, probably because there weren't many impressive details to give.

Jesus called people from all walks of life, fishermen, political, tax collectors. Common people, rich and poor. Educated and uneducated. God can use anyone, no matter how insignificant he or she appears to be.

\*"God uses ordinary people to do extraordinary work"

Why didn't Jesus want the disciples to go to the gentiles? A Gentile is anyone who is not a Jew!

God chose the Jews to tell the rest of the world about Him. We see Jewish disciples and apostles teaching the gospel of Christ all around the Roman empire.

And soon we see the gentiles pouring into the church.

The bible clearly states that salvation is for all people regardless of race male or female or national origin.

(\*)

Jesus tells the apostles, "Freely you have received, freely give!"

God has blessed us, we should give freely to others, with our time, love and possessions - teaching.

In regards to those who teach -- provide a spiritual service, are to be cared for. We care for missionaries, preachers --

Jesus tells them not to take extra sandals, staff or bag. The principle was they were ready to go out for duty and travel. The things they needed would be provided. Travel light!

If a city wouldnt welcome them -- shake the dust off their feet. Move on, dont waste your time -- Are we receptive to Gods word? Word of caution --- if we ignore it we may not get another chance!

We see warning of Sodom & Gomorrah destroyed by fire. Those who reject Gods word will be worse off than the wicked of these two destroyed cities.

\* Start with verse 16 - "Disciples prepared for persecution"  
(Back to page 2)

"Jesus prepares the disciples for persecution"  
 The opposition from the pharisees would be like wolves. The disciples hope would be to turn to their shepherd for protection  
 "just as we need to depend on our shepherd"

Sometimes living for God can bring on persecution from family or friends.

10:22 (Jesus told disciples)

"you will be hated by everyone because of me but the one who stands firm to the end will be saved"

Jesus told them when they were arrested for preaching the gospel - don't worry about what to say, God's spirit would speak through them. We see this promise fulfilled in acts 4:8-14 Peter & John before the Sanhedrin - they were filled w/ Holy Spirit. \* ALSO 1 Peter 3:15

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Beelzebub is also known as the lord of the flies and prince of demons. The pharisees accused Jesus of using Beelzebub's power to drive out demons. Good is sometimes labeled as evil. If Jesus who is perfect was called evil, his followers should expect that similar accusations will be directed at them.

"Remain firm and you will be saved."

JESUS SAYS God is AWARE OF EVERYTHING THAT HAPPENS, EVEN TO THE SPARROWS, WHEN ONE FALLS TO THE GROUND God KNOWS IT. (AND ARE YOU NOT MORE IMPORTANT THAN THEY ARE? WHAT DID God DO FOR US? John 3:16

10:29-31

Matt.  
10:16

Later the disciples did suffer these hardships not only government officials.

Living for God often can bring persecution, but with it comes the opportunity to tell the gospel of Christ and salvation.

In times of persecution we can be confident "Jesus overcame the World". <sup>⊕</sup> Temptations of I.T...  
Matt. 10:22, "all those who stand firm to the end will be saved."

\* "Be Prepared" (Great feeling to be prepared)  
1 Peter 3:15

But in your hearts revere Christ as Lord. Always be prepared to give an answer to every one who asks you to give the reason for the hope you have. But do this with gentleness and respect.

\* Stand firm to the end---

Anyone who acknowledges Jesus (Publicly Confess) will be acknowledged by Christ before his father, in heaven.

Jesus says, Anyone who loves their father, son, daughter or mother more than Me is not worthy of me. Whoever does not take up their cross and follow me is not worthy of me.

\* to take up our cross and follow Jesus.. means to be willing to publicly identify with him, to be committed to him even in the face of ridicule or persecution.

## Lesson 4. Twelve Disciples "Questions"

1. How did Jesus decide who the 12 disciples would be?
2. What lesson do we learn from how they were selected? How should we respond?
3. What authority did Jesus give the 12?  
What did he want them to do?
4. What were their names?
5. What were they to take with them? How were they to get along with nothing?
6. What were they to do if the towns people would not accept them? Jesus NOT accepted in his hometown
7. When Jesus told them they would be persecuted what would be happening to them?  
They would be like sheep among wolves.  
What does that mean?
8. Why were they not to worry when they were arrested?
9. Jesus told them they would be hated. Why?
10. <sup>Why</sup> Should we <sup>NOT</sup> fear those who can kill the body?  
Who should we fear? Why?
11. How much does God Care for us?  
How do we know?



12. When we tell others about Jesus, what will Jesus do for us?
13. What happens when we disown Jesus?
14. Who should we love first and foremost? Why?
15. How are we to show our love to Jesus?
16. How important is it just to do even the smallest thing for someone even just a cup of cold water?