

Week 3 - Luke 2:1-52

Small Group Discussion Guide:

1. The baby in the manger is a very familiar story to most of us. What did you see in it this week that was new or awe inspiring? How does this impact how you think about Christmas? How does it matter to your life today?
2. Luke makes it clear to us that Jesus is the long awaited Messiah King. What does this chapter demonstrate about the Kingdom of God? Who is this kingdom for, and what kind of King will this Jesus be?
3. The multitude of angels proclaimed: "Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace among those with whom he is pleased." What kind of peace does Jesus bring on earth?
4. Does the "good news of great joy" have the same effect on you today as it did on the angels and the shepherds? Why or why not?
5. What strikes you as important about Mary and Joseph's visit to the temple with the infant Jesus? Why do you think Luke included these details?
6. In what way are Simeon and Anna an example for us of how to be "*a people prepared*" to receive Jesus when He comes again?
7. What does Luke teach us about the role and work of the Holy Spirit in this chapter? Where was the Holy Spirit mentioned, and what was He doing?
8. Luke 2:41-52 is the only story of Jesus' childhood or adolescence in all of Scripture. Why do you think Luke chose to include this particular story?
9. According to **John 1:29**, Jesus is "***the lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world.***" He was our final "***Passover Lamb,***" a "***once and for all***" sacrifice so that no further blood offering for sin is ever necessary in the temple (**1 Corinthians 5:7, Hebrews 10**). Looking back over **Luke 2:1-58**, how does Luke point to Jesus as the Lamb of God throughout this entire chapter?

What is your big take-away from this chapter of Luke? Is there anything you need to confess or yield to God in response to this Truth? What will you praise God for? What will you ask God to do?