

# Jesus Magnified

## Luke 2

### Lesson 2

#### **FIRST DAY:** Read Luke 2

*Incarnation* is a word that describes what happened when God the Son took on flesh and blood. Jesus experienced the full spectrum of humanity; He came as a baby, grew into a man, and lived among men with all the trials that men face. Yet in all this, Jesus lived an absolutely righteous life that centered on pleasing His Father.

Luke, in his careful investigation of the facts concerning Jesus, takes us back to the very place where Jesus, the Son of God, was born. Luke documented this event by citing the prominent leaders, the decree of Caesar Augustus, and the conditions under which Christ entered the world.

Luke 2 brings you into the very wonder and glory of Jesus' advent. Experience the same majestic wonder as Mary as you travel to Bethlehem, hear the testimony of shepherds, read Simeon's blessing, listen to Anna's exclamation, and marvel at Jesus' wisdom as a young boy.

*Ask God to fill your heart with the treasury of the things pertaining to Jesus.*

#### **SECOND DAY:** Read Luke 2:1-7

1. From Luke 2:1-3 *what came to pass in those days?*

a. Why do you think Luke gave such specific details?

(1) What details do you find interesting?

2. Use Luke 2:4-5 to explain how this *census* affected Mary and Joseph.
  - a. Link this with Micah 5:2. What do you see?
  
3. Use Luke 2:6-7 to paint a picture of what happened *while they were there* in Bethlehem.
  - a. In ancient Israel inns were very busy, public places. The courtyard area where Mary and Joseph had to stay would have afforded little privacy for a woman in childbirth. Not only that, but the *swaddling cloths* used to wrap Jesus were mere strips of fabric, and the *manger* was an animal's feeding trough. How does this magnify your understanding of the incarnation of Jesus Christ?
    - (1) Link this scene with 2 Corinthians 8:9 and write a sentence of appreciation for what Jesus has done for you.
  
4. What touches your heart most from your study today?

**THIRD DAY:** Read Luke 2:8-20

1. From Luke 2:8 what do you learn about the shepherds?
  - a. What happened to these men? Luke 2:9
    - (1) What was their reaction?

2. Use the angel's announcement in Luke 2:10-12 to answer the following:
  - a. Why were the shepherds **not** to *be afraid*? (verse 10)
  - b. Who was *born*? (verse 11)
  - c. What would the shepherds *find*? (verse 12)
  - d. What piques your interest most from the angel's announcement?
  
3. After this announcement, *suddenly a multitude* of angels appeared, praising God. Use their declaration in Luke 2:14 to remark on these phrases:
  - a. *Glory to God in the highest*
  - b. *On earth peace*
  - b. *Goodwill toward men*

(1) What does this announcement convey to you?
  
4. Observe the events of Luke 2:15-20 and comment on the reaction of:
  - a. The *shepherds*
  - b. *Those who heard* the shepherds
  - c. Mary

5. What do you find most compelling about the shepherds?

**FOURTH DAY:** Read Luke 2:21–35

1. From Luke 2:21–24 summarize what took place following Jesus' circumcision.
  - a. Notice the offering Mary and Joseph brought (Luke 2:24). Compare this with Leviticus 12:2, 8. What does this convey to you?
  
2. Use Luke 2:25–28 to answer the following:
  - a. How was Simeon described? (verse 25)
  
  - b. What had been *revealed* to him? (verse 26)
  
  - c. What happened as Mary and Joseph went to the *temple* with *the Child Jesus*? (verses 27–28)
  
3. In Luke 2:29–32 Simeon *blessed God* in prayer. Use his prayer to share your thoughts on:
  - a. The fulfillment of God's promise to Simeon
  
  - b. The *salvation* God had *prepared*
  
4. From Luke 2:33 observe Joseph and Mary's reaction. How do you think Simeon's words might have affected them?

5. In Luke 2:34–35 Simeon had a personal message for Mary. Note and comment on his words concerning:
  - a. Jesus' purpose
  - b. Mary
6. What stands out to you most from these events?

**FIFTH DAY:** Read Luke 2:36–40

1. In Luke 2:36–37 a woman named Anna came into the temple. Use these verses to describe her.
2. Note the *instant* Anna entered the temple (Luke 2:27–28). What lesson can you draw from this? Luke 2:38a
  - a. How did Anna respond to what she saw? Luke 2:38b
3. What impresses you most about Anna?
  - a. Share a way you can emulate Anna.
4. Use Luke 2:39 to comment on Mary and Joseph's activity.
5. From Luke 2:40 cite the attributes Jesus already manifested at a young age.
  - a. How has He manifested these attributes toward you?

**SIXTH DAY:** Read Luke 2:41–52

1. *Every year* Jesus' parents went to Jerusalem for *the Feast of the Passover* (Luke 2:41). From Luke 2:42–45 summarize what happened *when He was twelve years old*.
  - a. Imagine losing Jesus! How do you think this happened?
    - (1) How is this a warning to you?
  - b. What did Joseph and Mary have to do in order to find Jesus?
2. Describe where and when they found Jesus. Luke 2:46
  - a. What was He doing?
3. From Luke 2:47–48 observe and remark on the reaction of:
  - a. *All who heard* Jesus
  - b. His parents
4. What do you find profound about Jesus' response to His parents? Luke 2:49
  - a. Although Mary and Joseph *did not understand* what Jesus meant, He returned home and *was subject to them* (Luke 2:50–51a). From Luke 2:51b comment on Mary's reaction to *these things*.

5. Describe Jesus' early years. Luke 2:52

6. Consider all Mary witnessed and *pondered* in her heart. Which of the events below did you find yourself pondering most this week?

a. The birth of Jesus

b. The testimony of the shepherds

c. The declaration of Simeon

d. The praise of Anna

e. Jesus in the temple

7. How was Jesus magnified through your study this week?