



Resources

- Watch or listen to Sunday's sermon: abfboone.com/sermons
- Find Life Group resources: abfboone.org/groups/resources

Luke 2:1-7

1 In those days a decree went out from Caesar Augustus that all the world should be registered. 2 This was the first registration when Quirinius was governor of Syria. 3 And all went to be registered, each to his own town. 4 And Joseph also went up from Galilee, from the town of Nazareth, to Judea, to the city of David, which is called Bethlehem, because he was of the house and lineage of David, 5 to be registered with Mary, his betrothed, who was with child. 6 And while they were there, the time came for her to give birth. 7 And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in swaddling cloths and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn.

I. The Historical Setting of the Birth (1-3)

II. The Necessary Travel for the Birth (4-5)

III. The Humiliating Birth of Jesus (6-7)

Life Group Leader Notes:

•Pastor Scott spent time talking about the commercialization of Christmas at the beginning of his sermon. What aspect of Christmas do you & your family enjoy most? Are there ways Christmas trappings have distracted you from the true meaning?

•Luke tells his readers that Caesar Augustus decreed that a census be taken, which is why Joseph and Mary traveled to Bethlehem. After his death, Augustus was declared divine and even received the title son of Zeus, the son of god, the savior of the world. Considering these things, what is the significance of the setting/context of Christ's birth?

•Consider Joseph's actions in these events. Read Matthew 1:18-25. In what ways did Joseph submit himself to God in opposition to what would be expected of a Jewish man in that day?





- Why do we try to “sanitize” the story of Christ’s birth?

- What was God communicating to the world through the simple, humiliating birth of Christ?

- Jesus “...humbled Himself and came in the lowliest of fashion to save the lowliest of people. Sinners, like you and me.” What does this tell us about our own lowliness and need? How can this knowledge inform the way we approach God this week?

- In what ways does our own lowliness change the way we share the Gospel with other believers? How can we intentionally demonstrate the grace we have been shown to others this week?

