



**Series:** Christmas series

**Passage** Luke 2:1-21

**Title:** God's Christmas Grace

**Speaker:** Pastor David Menard– 12/24/2020

**Discussion Starter** – Luke's gospel contains historically accurate detail about the first century. The Bible is a history book, documenting real events and people. This passage documents the birth of our messiah. Read Micah 5:2. Who is the "One to be Ruler"? What does, "from of old, from everlasting" mean? How has the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus impacted your life? How has it impacted the world?

### **Jesus' Birth – Life as a Christian is not Always Easy (verses 1-7)**

- What social problems might have Mary and Joseph faced because of her pregnancy? What other hardships did Mary and Joseph face in this passage? Under what conditions was Jesus born? Why would God allow Joseph and Mary to endure these difficulties and hardships?
- There was no room at the inn for Mary and Joseph. Pastor David taught that this is a picture of the lack of room in our life for Jesus? What reasons might the innkeeper have had for denying them shelter? What keeps you from making room for Jesus in your life? Consider and discuss the amount of "room" that Jesus consumes in your life?

### **God's Christmas Grace (verses 8-21)**

- What do shepherds raise and care for? How did the shepherds contribute to the Passover celebration? What do the Passover lamb and Jesus have in common? (See John 1:29). On what Jewish celebration day was Jesus crucified?
- Read John 1:14. Why did Jesus have to become a man? Why such a humble birth? Why do we value people/things that appear lofty and noble? What does God value?
- God does not change, "he is the same yesterday, today, and forever" (Hebrews 13:8) God is both just and merciful. How is this a problem when bringing salvation to humanity?
- How can God be both merciful and just at the same time? We are all sinners and it would be unjust for God to forgive us without penalty. What was God's solution to this problem?
- What did God's plan cost him? What does "glory to God in the highest" mean to you?
- Jesus' life and death were actual historical events. Discuss Jesus' life and death? How did he live? When did he put himself first? Read Luke 23:24. Jesus was on the cross suffering – who was he thinking of at this time?
- Pastor David named three benefits of glorifying Jesus as the lord of your life. List the three benefits. How have you experienced these benefits first hand in your life?