

PREPARATION FOR LESSON: Read Matthew chapter 1; Luke chpts. 1 - 2:20; 3:23-37; John chapter 1:1-18

COURSE OUTLINE

The Life of Jesus

Preparation years
 Ministry - 1st year
 Ministry - 2nd year
 Ministry - 3rd year
 Ministry - last 3 months
 Ministry - last week
 Last 40 days on earth

DEVELOPED OUTLINE Preparation Years

- A. Nazareth to Bethlehem** 68 miles Luke 2:1-20
1. The angel Gabriel's announcement to Mary Luke 1:26-38
 2. An angel's announcement to Joseph Matt. 1:18-25
 3. Caesar's announcement of census c. 7 BC
 4. Joseph and Mary's trip to Bethlehem
 5. Jesus' birth and circumcision - named *Yeshúa* in Aramaic - *One who saves*
- B. Bethlehem to Jerusalem** 6 miles Luke 2:22-38
1. Joseph and Mary go to temple 40 days after Jesus' birth
 2. Simeon and Anna give praise to God for Jesus' birth
- C. Jerusalem to Bethlehem** 6 miles Matt. 2:1-12
1. Joseph and Mary return with Jesus and move into a house
 2. The Magi arrive in Jerusalem (Num. 24:17; Dan. 9:25-26)
 3. The Magi come to Bethlehem
 4. The Magi return home by another route
- D. Bethlehem to Egypt** 100 miles Matt. 2:13-18
1. An angel warns Joseph and Mary of danger
 2. They flee to Egypt
 3. Herod kills the babies in Bethlehem (approx. 20)
 4. Joseph, Mary and Jesus live in Egypt about one year
- E. Egypt to Nazareth** 200 miles Matt. 2:19-23; Luke 2:39
1. An angel tells Joseph that Herod is dead
 2. Joseph plans to stay in Bethlehem
 3. Joseph decides on Nazareth after a warning in a dream
- F. Nazareth to Jerusalem** 62 miles Luke 2:40-50
1. Jesus grows in wisdom and strength Isa. 50:4
 2. Jesus goes to the Temple in Jerusalem when 12 years old
- G. Jerusalem to Nazareth** 62 miles Luke 2:51-52
1. Jesus returns with His parents
 2. Jesus grows mentally, physically and spiritually
 3. Jesus works as a carpenter for 21 years Mark 6:3

EXPLANATIONS

Genealogy of Jesus

- *Matthew* gives Joseph's line because the royal line comes thru the father. He puts the focus on Joseph. Joseph is not Jesus' biological father, but becomes His father thru adoption. This gives Jesus the legal right to David's throne, to be Messiah, king of the Jews.

EXPLANATIONS *continued*

Genealogy of Jesus

- **Luke** gives Mary's line because she is the biological mother and from the line of David. Heli is her father.
In Greek, Luke's genealogy says, *Jesus...being son, as was supposed of Joseph) of the Heli, of the Matthat.*
The in front of a name means it is linked to the previous name.
Luke does not put *the* in front of Joseph, but puts *the* in front of Heli meaning Jesus is grandson of Heli.
In Greek and Hebrew, *son* can also mean *grandson*. Luke puts the focus on Mary.

Virgin birth of Jesus: a special act of creation

The Holy Spirit creates the beginning of a special body and puts it within Mary's egg and womb.
In His humanity, as He matures and understands His ministry, Jesus says to God the Father,
...I know that the bodies of animal sacrifices have never been able to forgive sin to remove it. But You have prepared a body for Me so I can take away sin.. I will do what You, O God, have sent Me to accomplish. Heb. 10:5 paraphrased
Jesus, as Creator of the world, allowed **His** beginning humanity to be created by the Holy Spirit - *He humbled Himself.* Phil. 2:8

Jewish Engagement in the first century was for at least one year and then the marriage.

The year of engagement was as binding as marriage. Any immorality by an engaged girl was considered adultery and punishable by death. The only way to break an engagement was by death or divorce. Communication between an engaged couple was usually thru their fathers. A godly Jewish man could not marry his fiancé if she was guilty of immorality. He must either divorce her or condemn her to death along with the guilty man.

Physical birth of Jesus was in a stable cave. He was wrapped in narrow strips of cloth instead of baby clothes.

When the shepherds see Him, they would be immediately reminded of the wrapping strips of burial cloths.
On His day of human birth, Jesus is wrapped with the same type of cloth as He will be on His day of death.
It is God's picture to illustrate that He was born to die.

Jewish shepherds were part of the believing remnant.

Jewish writings of that time, said that sheep kept in these fields were set aside for Temple sacrifices in Jerusalem.

Distinctiveness of Jesus

His Deity
His virgin birth

These 2 beliefs are basic to historic Christianity and makes it different from other faith systems

The writers present these claims of Jesus and then tell the life story of Jesus to show why these concepts are important.

APPLICATION

When Mary knew she would be the mother of the promised Messiah, she was thrilled. When she knew it would be a virgin birth, she realized the problems, suffering and danger she would face. In a faith far beyond her 15 or 16 years she replied, *God, I am willing to do it Your way. I will trust You to handle the problems that come from my obedience.*

When God wants to work in our life, if we do things His way, we may have to make decisions that will cause problems. People may get mad at us, resent us or even reject us. We may have to give up or let go of something that is important to us

Obedience never means everyone will love and accept us or that all will be perfect in our life.
But obedience will bring His blessings, His peace and enjoyment of His presence.

Can we say with Mary,

I am willing to do things God's way. I will trust God to handle the problems that come from my obedience.

