

Sermon Application Study

December 18, 2022

Target Passage → Luke 2:1-7

1. Look up some information on the following items: Caesar Augustus, Quirinius, Galilee, Nazareth, Judea, and Bethlehem. Come to group prepared to share what you learned.
2. Why does Luke give us all of this detail about the census and the road trip made by Joseph and Mary?
3. Have a look at John 7:40-52. How does Jesus' birth narrative confirm Jesus' disciples and confuse his enemies?
4. How does this perfect time and place for Jesus' birth give us a picture of his ministry?

Bridge Passages (for further study) → 1 Samuel 16:1-7, Micah 5:1-5, John 7:40-52

For Me →

1. How does the study of historical details in Scripture (as we have just done) affect the way you see your faith in Christ?
2. How should Jesus' humility in his birth impact our own reputations?

For the Mission →

1. How should the historical details of Jesus' birth inform the way we talk about Jesus with others?
2. How would you address an argument from someone who says the historical details of Matthew contradict the historical details in Luke (Herod/Quirinius)?

PRAYER FOCUS

Pray for your friends who struggle with the gospel on the grounds of history, who cannot see that the details given to us in Scripture are trustworthy and full of significance for the person and work of Christ.