



## **LUKE CHAPTER 2 (FACILITATOR)**

### **Discussion Starter**

- How has God surprised you this week, month, or year?
- **Opening Prayer**
  - Ask if someone wants to volunteer before leading the prayer.

### **Breaking it Down**

- All questions should be utilized as appropriate based upon group dynamics to facilitate both understanding and discussion. Don't feel tied to the questions and don't feel like you must get through every question. Follow the Spirit's lead! All questions are a matter of perspective in some way BUT there are specific questions that this is truer of, and these questions have been indicated to be perspective/opinion questions.
- Please use your own style, voice, and approach in preparing for leading your life group. Most importantly, take a few minutes to pray over the time together with you group and pray over each group member by name.

### **Tell the Story**

- **PLEASE MAKE SURE THAT YOU HAVE ONE PERSON WHO STORIES (SUMMARIZES THE CHAPTER) BEFORE THE GROUP READS THE CHAPTER TOGETHER.**

### **Read the Story (Luke 2:1-52)**

Read out loud as a group, 3-5 verses per person. Let everyone know they can opt out if they would like.

### **Luke 2:1-21**

- It is important to note the world that Jesus was born into. Caesar Augustus was a powerful and influential leader and one who brought a certain level of calm to a chaotic and war-torn world, but he didn't do this diplomatically or gently. So, while he was a political rescuer and reformer in many ways, the world was in desperate need of what he nor could anyone give outside of Jesus.

- How do you think people generally view Jesus today? How do you view Jesus? Would you say that your life is lived in desperation for Him?
  - These are perspective and opinion questions so please listen as the facilitator.
- Notice that the birth of Jesus is seemingly understated by Luke when you really consider who Jesus was/is and what He would do. Why do you think that God allowed Jesus to enter the world without much “fanfare?”
  - This is a perspective and opinion question so please listen as the facilitator.
- The fact that the angel first appeared and announced Jesus’ arrival to shepherds is interesting, especially because as a class of citizens, shepherds were not even close to being regarded as royalty. In fact, shepherds, were considered social outcasts in many ways. Read 1 Corinthians 1:18-32. How does this passage coincide with how God designed the birth of Jesus to unfold?
  - God doesn’t function and operate in the ways that we as human beings do. What we think is wise and intelligent typically runs contrary to how God moves and acts. Part of this is due to what we value because God values much different things than we as human beings value.

**Luke 2:22-38**

- What is interesting about Simeon’s response to seeing Jesus in verses 29-32?
  - It seems as if Simeon’s entire life has been centered and focused upon waiting for Jesus’ arrival. Everything else paled in comparison to him eagerly awaiting the promised Messiah.
    - How do you eagerly await and seek to claim the promises that God has made to you?
      - This is a perspective and opinion question so please listen as the facilitator.
    - Put yourself in Joseph’s and Mary’s shoes when they heard the blessing and the warning about Jesus. What would you have been thinking or feeling?

- This is a perspective and opinion question so please listen as the facilitator.

□ Notice that Anna was old, a widow who had obviously experienced pain and loss, and yet she was a woman who was totally sold out to and in love with the Lord and with Jesus. In what ways does your life need to more closely resemble Anna's devotion to the Lord?

- This is a perspective and opinion question so please listen as the facilitator.

□ Notice Mary's response in verse 38. Why is this significant?

- Mary probably did not understand exactly how all of what God said to her through the angel was going to come about, especially in and through her own wisdom and intellect. However, she did not choose to trust in her own wisdom and intellect but rather sought to trust in what God had spoken to her.

- In what ways do you need to stop trying to seek the answers to all that God is asking/telling you to do and just trust that He knows what He's doing?

- This is a perspective and opinion question so please listen as the facilitator.

### **Luke 2:41-52**

□ This passage is so loaded in many ways because it demonstrates that Jesus was deeply in touch with both His divinity and His humanity. He understood who He was and yet, He still did the ordinary things of life with humility and in submission to His Father and to His parents.

- In what ways does your life reflect your submission and humility to the Father? In what ways does your life not currently reflect your submission and humility to the Father?

- These are perspective questions so please listen as the facilitator.

### **Final Application**

- What does this passage teach us about God?
- What does this passage teach us about mankind?

- What is a command to obey in this passage?
- What has God revealed in your life that needs changing?
- What truth can be applied to your life about the gospel?

### **Closing & Prayer Requests**

- Have a designated person to capture and share (as appropriate) within the life group.
- What happens in life group, stays in life group.
- Don't forget get to confirm the next meeting date and time.

Also recruit someone to do the story for the following week. (Luke chapter 3)

## LUKE CHAPTER 2 (STUDENT)

### Luke 2:1-21

- It is important to note the world that Jesus was born into. Caesar Augustus was a powerful and influential leader and one who brought a certain level of calm to a chaotic and war-torn world, but he didn't do this diplomatically or gently. So, while he was a political rescuer and reformer in many ways, the world was in desperate need of what he nor could anyone give outside of Jesus.
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  - Put yourself in Joseph's and Mary's shoes when they heard the blessing and the warning about Jesus. What would you have been thinking or feeling?
- Notice that Anna was old, a widow who had obviously experienced pain and loss, and yet she was a woman who was totally sold out to and in love with the Lord and with Jesus. In what ways does your life need to more closely resemble Anna's devotion to the Lord?
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