

Date: _____



Shepherd's Path

A Shepherd's Personal Devotions

Jesus Is the King Series, Lesson 30

Lesson Title: Receiving the King

Take Home Point: God sends us Jesus the King;
receive him as a gift.

Warm-Up:

When you have a very special message for someone, how do you communicate it to them? Take a moment to consider how the President of the United States communicates with another government. The more important the message, the more senior the messenger. When the message is most serious or requires the personal attention of the President, he doesn't send a messenger but rather goes himself.

Read: Luke 2:1-7

Observation (What happened?):

Read John 3:16. Who did God send to earth to show his love to us?

How did God announce the birth of his son? (Remember last week's lesson!)

Interpretation (What does it mean?):

Does Luke 2:1-7 describes how a king would typically be born in our world? Why do you think God chose this humble birth for his Son?

How could you describe Jesus as both the messenger and the message?

Insight:

God views kingship very differently than we typically do. To us, a king is someone who sits on a throne, receives high-ranking guests, and commands others to do his bidding. That is not God's view. Even in Old Testament times, God expected the king to be involved with his people. (For example, read 1 Kings 3:5-12 about God's response to King Solomon's request for wisdom to know his people.) It's the same with God sending Jesus as King. No king has ever been as close to his people as Jesus is to us. He is Immanuel, "God with us." That is just as true today as when Jesus was born! And because we have such a wonderful relationship with our King, he wants us to be his ambassadors in our world. Now he sends us to tell others about his love, grace, and forgiveness.

Application (What does it mean to me?):

Pray for the children in your group to know the love of Jesus.

What are some ways you can tell others about Jesus this Christmas season?