

Date: _____



Shepherd's Path

A Shepherd's Personal Devotions

Jesus Is the King Series, Lesson 29

Lesson Title: Announcing the King

Take Home Point: Proclaim Jesus as King!

Warm-Up:

Think of a time when you had good news for someone you love—perhaps an announcement of something they had been anticipating. How did you communicate it to them? Were you reluctant and subdued, or ready and eager? How did they respond to the news?

Read: Matthew 1:18-25

Observation (What happened?):

What two things did the angel tell Joseph to do? What did he do?

Why did God want the baby to be named Jesus?

Interpretation (What does it mean?):

Why do you think God sent an angel to tell Joseph about Mary's child and who the child was to become?

Think of some words to describe how Joseph might have felt when he woke up from his dream (for example: excited, unsettled, resolute to obey).

Insight:

The birth of Jesus was a busy time for God's angel messengers! In addition to Joseph's dream in Matthew 1:20-21, angels visited a number of other people to proclaim the coming of the King. In Luke 1:28-38, an angel tells Mary she will give birth to the Son of God. In Luke 1:5-20, the priest Zechariah is in the temple performing his duties when an angel appears to tell him that his son will prepare the way for the Savior. (We know Zechariah and Elizabeth's son as John the Baptist.) And Luke 2:8-15, describes the angels announcing the good news of Jesus' birth to the shepherds in the fields outside Bethlehem. Read these verses to get a sense of the angels' joy and excitement.

Application (What does it mean to me?):

Do you get excited about proclaiming Jesus as Savior and King? Who have you told in the past year? What is one way to get your group excited about telling others, too?

What is God telling you to do in obedience, even if you don't fully understand his plan?