

## “The Birth of Christ”- Life of Christ Series

### Introduction:

1. We will talk about His birth and the events that surround it. We want to fit things in chronologically so we can better understand. Once we see the overall picture, we can begin to plug pieces in.
2. We will stop and discuss, Christ’s teachings, along the way.

### Discussion:

#### **I. Jesus’s Birth Announced to Mary and Joseph**

##### A. Luke 1:26-38

1. It was the 6 month of Elizabeth’s (John the Baptist’s mother) pregnancy
2. She was engaged or betrothed to Joseph, not yet married. Engagements then were different then now, you were basically married, when you were engaged.
3. She was to name him Jesus (the Greek spelling for the Hebrew word “Joshua” or “Yeshua”)
4. She was highly favored by God and had a strong faith in God (vs. 37-38)

##### B. Mary visits Elizabeth (Luke 1:39-45)

1. It was immediately after she had the talk with Gabriel that she went to Elizabeth’s house.
2. John the Baptist, leaped inside of the womb. Elizabeth filled with the Holy Spirit, praises Mary and Christ

##### C. Mary’s Song of Joy (Luke 1:46-50)

1. After being praised by Elizabeth, Mary sings her song of Joy
2. She shows great depths of knowledge and understanding of God and His ways.

##### D. The Birth of Christ explained to Joseph (Matthew 1:18-25)

1. After Joseph finds out Mary is with child, he tries to put her away secretly
2. An angel of Lord appears to Joseph and explains what has happened

#### **II. Jesus is Born in Bethlehem**

##### B. Jesus is born

1. Mary and Joseph travel to Bethlehem for the census that is when she gives birth (Luke 2:1-7)
2. Micah 5:2, prophecies about the Christ being born in Bethlehem
2. Herod died in 4 B.C. shortly after her had murdered all 2 year old children and under which makes it possible that Jesus was born in 6 B.C.
2. The Virgin birth was necessary for God to dwell with man (Job 9:30-35; Gen 3:15; 1 Tim 2:5; Isaiah 7:14)
2. An Angel of the Lord appears to the shepherds and they went away praising God. (Lu. 2:8-20)

##### C. Jesus is presented at the temple (Luke 2:21-39)

1. He was circumcised as all male Jews would have been (Leviticus 12:1-3)
2. The days for purification would be 40 days (Leviticus 12:1-5)
3. The go back to Nazareth, most likely to gather things for a move to Bethlehem (39)

#### **III. Jesus Return to Nazareth**

##### A. The Magi’s visit (Matthew 2:1-12)

1. When the Magi (astrologers) came to Herod to look for the “King of the Jews”
2. He sent them to the Christ, to find out where He was so Herod could have him killed

##### B. The Escape to Egypt (Matthew 2:13-15)

1. Hosea 11:1 (Dual fulfillment prophecy)
2. Rachel became the symbolic mother of Israel weeping for her children

##### C. Return to Nazareth (Matthew 2:19-23; Luke 2:39)

1. They stay in Egypt was perhaps about a year
2. Isa 11:1 “a branch.” Nazareth- place of the branch, Jesus was the man from branch a the title Nazarene, implies.

##### D. Growth and Early life of Jesus (Luke 2:40-52)

1. Jesus was *God with us* but also a human and went through the same growth process (2:40, 52).
2. Jesus from a young age recognized he had a Father other than Joseph, yet obeyed his earthly parents. Jesus would continue to grow in wisdom and stature until the time of His ministry.