

### Session 3: Jesus is Born

Imagine that Luke, who wrote an account of Jesus' birth, had turned the story into a newspaper article. We're going to write the front page of *The Bethlehem Times*, because Bethlehem was the town Mary and Joseph were staying in when Mary's baby was born. The story talks about the birth of the "Messiah", which is a name for the forever King that God had promised to send.

# The Bethlehem Times

## Good News!

### DIG INTO THE PASSAGE

Read these verses from Luke chapter 2 and fill in the gaps in the newspaper summary below.

<sup>8</sup> And there were shepherds living out in the fields nearby ... <sup>9</sup> An angel of the Lord appeared to them ... and they were terrified. <sup>10</sup> But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid. I bring you good news that will cause great joy for all the people. <sup>11</sup> Today in the town of David a Saviour has been born to you; he is the Messiah, the Lord."  
(Luke 2:8-11, NIV)

The good news announced today by an angel to some of our local \_\_\_\_\_ (v 8) is all about a baby boy, born to Mary, who is visiting Bethlehem from Nazareth. The angel told the shepherds that he is a \_\_\_\_\_ and the \_\_\_\_\_ (v 11).

"[Mary] wrapped him in cloths and placed him in a manger." (v 7)

"[The angel told the shepherds,] 'This will be a sign to you: you will find a baby wrapped in cloths and lying in a manger.'" (v 12)

"[The shepherds] hurried off and found Mary and Joseph, and the baby, who was lying in the manger." (v 16)

"I [Luke] have carefully investigated everything from the beginning." (1:3)

Look carefully at those four verses above and fill in the gaps in the sentence below:

The shepherds could be confident that what the angel told them was true because Luke \_\_\_\_\_.

### PAUSE TO PONDER

If someone asked you to sum up the good news of Christianity from this passage, what two-word headline would you use?

\_\_\_\_\_

How about a ten-word summary?

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

If you had to give a two-sentence explanation, what extra detail would you include?

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

### HOW ABOUT YOU?

If someone asked you whether you are sure the good news is true and why or why not, what would you say?

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_