

#36 FAMILY DEVOTION

30 Nov – 6 Dec 2020

Theme

The Word was made flesh for me.

Family Conversation Starter

Discuss how you would have planned the announcement of Jesus' birth.

Asking for Grace

Lord, give me deep joy in your humanity, that I might love you more and follow you more closely.

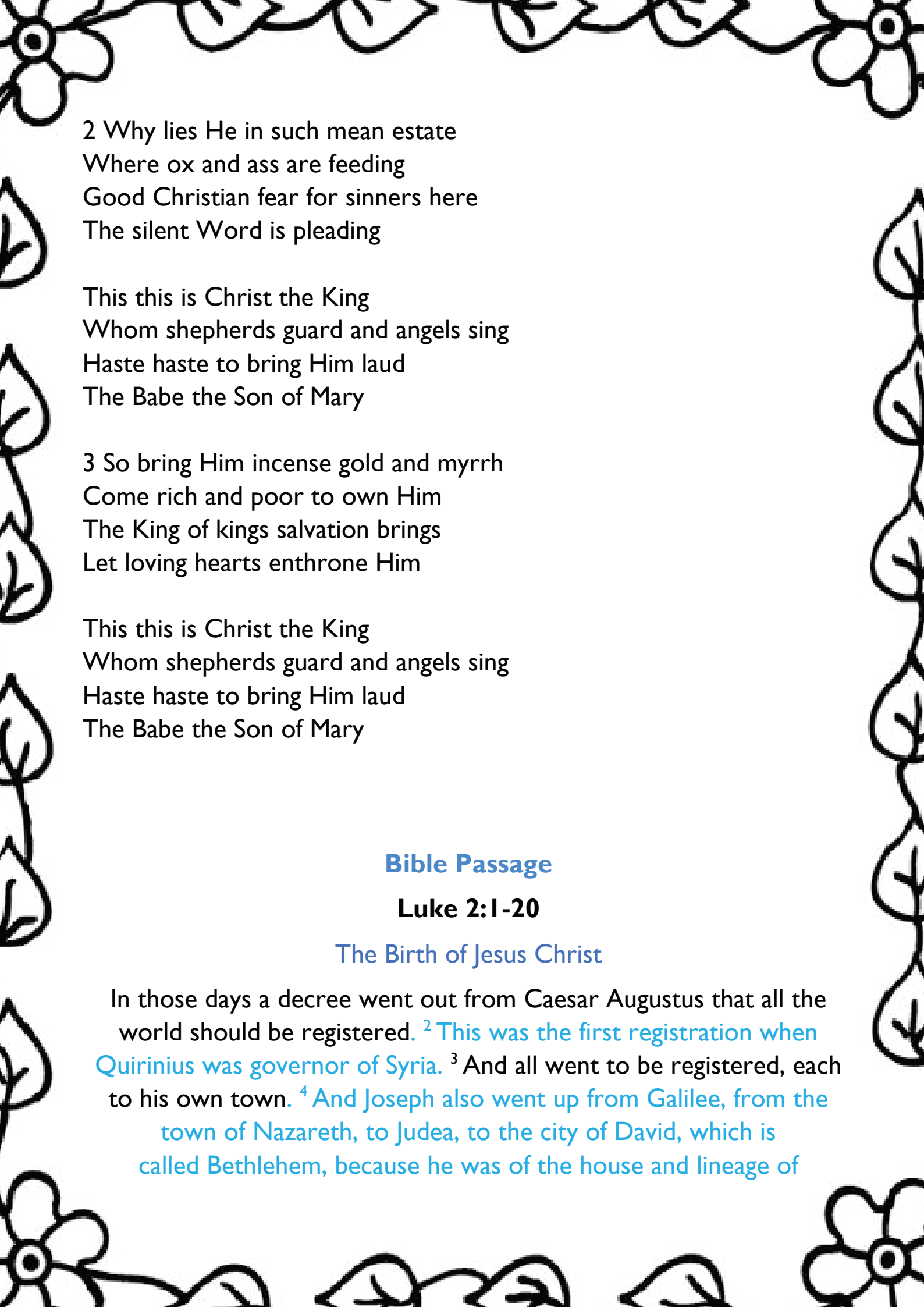
Song **What Child Is This?** *By William Chatterton Dix (1837-1898)*

In 1865, William was 29 years old when he suffered from a near-fatal bout of sickness. He was afflicted with severe depression, and this near-death experience changed him completely. While undergoing recovery, he experienced a spiritual awakening that inspired him to start crafting hymns. He became an avid reader of the Bible and subsequently, he wrote the lyrics of "What Child Is This?" The lyrics pose questions that reflect what the shepherds might be pondering about during the encounter and subsequently offers a response to such questions.

I What Child is this who laid to rest
On Mary's lap is sleeping
Whom angels greet with anthems sweet
While shepherds watch are keeping

This this is Christ the King
Whom shepherds guard and angels sing
Haste haste to bring Him laud
The Babe the Son of Mary





2 Why lies He in such mean estate
Where ox and ass are feeding
Good Christian fear for sinners here
The silent Word is pleading

This this is Christ the King
Whom shepherds guard and angels sing
Haste haste to bring Him laud
The Babe the Son of Mary

3 So bring Him incense gold and myrrh
Come rich and poor to own Him
The King of kings salvation brings
Let loving hearts enthrone Him


This this is Christ the King
Whom shepherds guard and angels sing
Haste haste to bring Him laud
The Babe the Son of Mary

Bible Passage

Luke 2:1-20

The Birth of Jesus Christ

In those days a decree went out from Caesar Augustus that all the world should be registered. ² This was the first registration when Quirinius was governor of Syria. ³ And all went to be registered, each to his own town. ⁴ And Joseph also went up from Galilee, from the town of Nazareth, to Judea, to the city of David, which is called Bethlehem, because he was of the house and lineage of




David,⁵ to be registered with Mary, his betrothed, who was with child.⁶ And while they were there, the time came for her to give birth.⁷ And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in swaddling cloths and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn.

The Shepherds and the Angels

⁸ And in the same region there were shepherds out in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night.⁹ And an angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were filled with great fear.¹⁰ And the angel said to them, “Fear not, for behold, I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people.¹¹ For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord.¹² And this will be a sign for you: you will find a baby wrapped in swaddling cloths and lying in a manger.”¹³ And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God and saying,

¹⁴ “Glory to God in the highest,
and on earth peace among those with whom he is pleased!”

¹⁵ When the angels went away from them into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, “Let us go over to Bethlehem and see this thing that has happened, which the Lord has made known to us.”¹⁶ And they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the baby lying in a manger.¹⁷ And when they saw it, they made known the saying that had been told them concerning this child.¹⁸ And all who heard it wondered at what the shepherds told them.¹⁹ But Mary treasured up all these things, pondering them in her heart.²⁰ And the shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.





Reflection

1. Jesus was born under the law. What does it mean to you for Jesus to have such a humble beginning and yet be the creator of the whole universe?
2. Read Revelation 1:13-18. What are the differences between these two images of Jesus?
3. Jesus went from a throne in heaven to a manger in a stable. How does this single act demonstrate how much God loves each and every one of us?

Prayer

Heavenly Father, thank You that I have peace with God, and as Your born-again child, that I have received Your goodwill and grace, not only in this age but in the ages to come. Thank You that because I am positioned in Christ and clothed in His righteousness, I am identified with Him, have found favour in Your sight, and the peace of God in my heart. I know that without Jesus there is nothing I could have done to warrant peace with You, for I acknowledge that I am a sinner, deserving of death - but glory to God in the highest, that peace has been granted to men with whom You are pleased. Praise Your holy name that both peace with God and the peace of God, is available to who place their faith in the only begotten Son of God, in Whose name I pray,
AMEN.

(prayer.knowing-jesus.com)



#36 家庭祭坛

日期：30/11-6/12/2020

主题分享

道為我成了肉身

家庭话题开始

讨论您会如何计划宣布耶稣的出生。

祈求恩典

祈求主，在祢的人們中賜給我深深的喜樂，
使我可以更加愛祢並更緊緊地跟隨祢。

诗歌 是何婴孩 *By William Chatterton Dix (1837-1898)*

1865 年，在他 29 岁时，威廉 (William) 患上了几乎致命的疾病。他患有严重的抑郁症，这种濒死的经历彻底改变了他。在康复期间，他经历了一次灵魂上的唤醒，这激发了他开始制作赞美诗。他成为圣经的狂热读者，随后写出“是何婴孩？”的歌词。歌词所提出的问题反映出牧羊人在相遇中可能会思考的问题，并随后对这些问题做出回应。

1 是何婴孩躺卧安睡 在马利亚胸怀内
牧人正在看守群羊 天使歌唱是为谁
祂是基督我王 天使歌唱 牧人欢庆
快来向祂颂扬 救主 基督 至圣婴

2 为何祂在卑贱地方 牛羊驴马之身旁
好基督徒衷心思量 主为罪人得释放
祂是基督我王 天使歌唱 牧人欢庆
快来向祂颂扬 救主 基督 至圣婴

3 奉献黄金乳香没药 万民承认祂为王
万王之王恩赐救赎 心灵当尊祂为王
祂是基督我王 天使歌唱 牧人欢庆
快来向祂颂扬 救主 基督 至圣婴



经文

路加福音 2:1-20

耶稣降生

2 当那些日子，恺撒奥古斯都有旨意下来，叫天下人民都报名上册。² 这是居里扭做叙利亚巡抚的时候，头一次行报名上册的事。³ 众人各归各城，报名上册。⁴ 约瑟也从加利利的拿撒勒城上犹太去，到了大卫的城，名叫伯利恒，因他本是大卫一族一家的人，⁵ 要和他所聘之妻马利亚一同报名上册。那时马利亚的身孕已经重了。⁶ 他们在那里的时候，马利亚的产期到了，⁷ 就生了头胎的儿子，用布包起来，放在马槽里，因为客店里没有地方。

天使报喜信给牧羊的人

⁸ 在伯利恒之野地里有牧羊的人，夜间按着更次看守羊群。⁹ 有主的使者站在他们旁边，主的荣光四面照着他们，牧羊的人就甚惧怕。¹⁰ 那天使对他们说：“不要惧怕，我报给你们大喜的信息，是关乎万民的。¹¹ 因今天在大卫的城里，为你们生了救主，就是主基督。¹² 你们要看见一个婴

孩，包着布，卧在马槽里，那就是记号了。”¹³ 忽然有一大队天兵，同那天使赞美神说：¹⁴ “在至高之处荣耀归于神！在地上平安归于他所喜悦的人^[a]！”

¹⁵ 众天使离开他们升天去了，牧羊的人彼此说：“我们往伯利恒去，看看所成的事，就是主所指示我们的。”¹⁶ 他们急忙去了，就寻见马利亚和约瑟，又有那婴孩卧在马槽里。¹⁷ 既然看见，就把天使论这孩子的话传开了。¹⁸ 凡听见的，就诧异牧羊之人对他们所说的话。¹⁹ 马利亚却把这一切的事存在心里，反复思想。²⁰ 牧羊的人回去了，因所听见、所看见的一切事正如天使向他们所说的，就归荣耀于神，赞美他。

反思

1. 耶稣是按律法出生的。耶稣拥有如此谦卑的开始却成为整个宇宙的创造者，这对您意味着什么？
2. 阅读启示录 1：13-18。这两个耶稣形象之间有什么区别？
3. 耶稣从天上的宝座降生到了马槽里。这个举动如何显示出上帝对我们每个人的爱？

祷告

天父，感谢您，让我拥有你的平安，以及作为你重生的孩子，让我现在和以后都得到了你的善意和恩典。感谢您，因为我被安置在基督里，身着基督的公义，所以我因为他的认同，在你眼前蒙了恩惠，在我心中得到了你的平安。我知道没有耶稣，我无法做任何事情来保证有你的平安，因为我知道我是一个罪人，应受死刑-但至高的荣耀归于上帝，赐下平安给你认同的人。赞美你的圣名，让与你一起的平安和你的平安对那些相信上帝独生子的人来说，是可得到的。奉主耶稣之名祷告，阿门

(prayer.knowing-jesus.com)