

## KRLC February 2020 Confirmation

### “The Birth of Jesus, His Early Life, and His Temptation in the Wilderness”

Group Meeting-February 16, 2020 at 2 PM

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Focus Thoughts for the Month: “I’ve heard these stories many times. What else can I learn from them?”; “Jesus was a poor baby. Why am I supposed to worship him like a king?”; “How can I resist temptation if I can’t remember Bible verses?”

\*\*In the “Here We Stand Lutheran Study Bible” read the following and underline the key verses:

\*Read about the Annunciation

Luke 1:26-56 (Key Verses: Luke 1:31-33)

\*Read about the Magi

Matthew 2:1-12 (Key Verses: Matthew 2: 2-3)

\*Read about the birth of Jesus:

Luke 2:1-20 (Key Verses: Luke 2:10-11)

\*Read about the Temptations of Jesus when he was in the Wilderness

Matthew 4: 1-11

Mark 1: 12-13

Luke 4:1-13 (Key Verses: Luke 4:12-13)

Complete the following activities on your own, with your mentor or with a family member.

1. Watch a video clip depicting the birth and youth of Jesus: [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hn5V-hNDH\\_4](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hn5V-hNDH_4)
2. Activity--Ask one person—a family member, a friend or your mentor—what they remember learning and thinking about the Birth of Jesus and his early life.
  - \*Ask them if/why they think His birth and life are important to them.
  - \*Record what they tell you.
3. Overview--Look at the map in your “Here We Stand Student Book” on page 109. Find Nazareth (in Galilee) where Mary and Joseph lived and draw a line from Nazareth to Bethlehem (in Judea) where it is said Jesus was born and to Jerusalem where the Magi looked for Jesus. Next, on page 107, draw a line from Jerusalem to Egypt where the family of Jesus took him to escape King Herod, and where they stayed until King Herod’s death. On pages 107 and 109 circle Galilee, where Jesus returned after escaping King Herod.
4. Angels--The Bible says Mary and the shepherds were visited by angels. Read page 72 -74 in your Student Book.
  - \*Write how you would react to an angel sighting.

\*Write how you think God's message is delivered today.

5. Shepherds--The shepherds were outcasts and they were the first to learn about the birth of Jesus. Jesus came for those who are poor and oppressed, and not just for the rich.

\*Connection: Think about your life: Do you know of any "outcasts"?

\*Think: What can you do in 10 minutes that would cross boundaries and extend God's welcome to all people, especially the "outcasts"? (It doesn't take long to make someone feel welcome or unwelcome.)

5. Magi--The magi who followed the star were probably astrologers or magicians of a priestly clan of Persians (Do you know where Persia is and what it is called now?) The magi were exotic pagans—considered nonbelievers in the extreme! So, the story of the magi shows us that Jesus is God's gift to the entire world, not just believers. (During the time of Jesus, it was believed that a new star rose in the sky at the birth of a great leader.)

\*Watch a video suggesting there might have been a night sky phenomena during the time when Jesus was born: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xDEFIC5NXgs&feature=youtu.be>

\*Understand: Read the "Here We Stand Student Book" pages 182-185: The Seasons of the Church Year and What They Mean.

\*Find the season of Christmas and Epiphany on the List of Seasons and also on the Circle Chart.

\*Write:

What do we celebrate during Christmas and Epiphany?

Which Church season is the longest?

What do we learn about during this season?

Which season is your favorite? Why?

7. Overview--In 3 of the Gospels (Matthew, Mark and Luke), Jesus finds himself being tempted in the wilderness by Satan after he was baptized and had fasted for 40 days (he was weak!).

\*Watch the video representing The Temptation of Jesus in the Wilderness:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LkHeETI6yqY&app=desktop>

\*Study the Map in your "Here We Stand Student Book" page 109.

\*Find Jerusalem and draw a line East to the Jordan River. Your line shows the wilderness area where Jesus was tempted. When Jesus left the wilderness, he walked to Galilee. Draw a line from the wilderness to Galilee. This is about 80 miles!

8. Temptation and Holy Spirit--Each time Jesus was tempted in the wilderness, he quoted scripture to help him resist Satan's temptations to follow him instead of God. When Jesus refused to give in, Satan finally left Jesus alone. Then the angels took care of Jesus.

\*Connect to your life: Think about it:

What tempts you the most?

When are you more likely to give in to temptation?  
What helps you stay true to yourself like Jesus did?

9. Temptation--\*Read about the Top 10 Bible Villains-- "Here We Stand Student Book"-page 33

\*Think about it:

What do all the villains have in common?  
Study the tenth villain—God's People—us!

10. Holy Spirit--\*Read "How to Resist Temptation" on page 209 and the 6<sup>th</sup> Petition of the Lord's Prayer on page 303.

\*Connect to your life: Write about it:

What tempts you on a daily basis?  
What can you do if your friends pressure you to do something you know you shouldn't do?

\*\*Come to KRLChurch on February 16 at 2PM to discuss what you have studied, written and thought about this month. Invite your mentor, family members and/or a friend. We are so very happy to have you as part of our Confirmation group.