

December 25 | Sunday
The Birth of Joseph's Boy

Read [Luke 2:1-7](#)



26 | Mon – Making space | Read [Matthew 2:3-6](#) and [Luke 2:4-7](#)

This familiar story is told around the world during the Christmas season. Prophecy foretold that the One-Who-Would-Save-Us was to be born in the town of Bethlehem but did not give a home address. Luke reports that Jesus was born in a space where animals were kept and his mother placed him in a manger (feeding trough) “*because there was no room in the inn.*” Such sad words. In your busy life, how much room have you made for Jesus?

27 | Tue – Who? | Read [Luke 2:8-20](#)

If you were God announcing the birth of your son, the Saviour of the world, who would you choose to be the first to know? Shepherding was a very lowly profession, yet these were the ones who were chosen to hear the good news first. The shepherds so believed what they were told that they immediately hurried into town. After seeing the baby, they praised God and told everyone about the child on their way back to work. God often looks for ordinary people who will listen and act on what they have seen and heard.

28 | Wed – Strange encounters | Read [Luke 2:21-38](#)

Joseph was a devout Jew, following the law regarding a newborn son. Probably Joseph and Mary did not know many people in Jerusalem so it must have been unexpected when a man and later a woman spoke to them regarding their son. Others might have seen only a poor couple with a baby, but these elderly saints recognized Jesus as the Promised One and praised God. Have you ever passed someone in the grocery store or at the gas station and were prompted to say or do something to bless them?

29 | Thu – Unusual visitors | Read [Matthew 2:1-6](#)

The Magi (a Greek word identifying students of the stars) most likely came from modern Iran and arrived some time after Jesus was born in Bethlehem. They came seeking the new King. Since Israel was just a minor Roman province, who would have expected non-Hebrew scholars to travel so far to see, much less worship, a newborn Jewish king? The Romans missed this true king and so did the priests. These wise men did not. In what ways can you keep your heart and mind open so you do not miss seeing God at work?

30 | Fri – Candlelight | Read [John 1:1-8](#)

In this prologue to John's gospel, he gives a very different view of the one known as Joseph's boy. John identifies Jesus as the Word who was in the beginning, who was with God and is God, bringing light for all people...“the light shines in the darkness and the darkness does not extinguish the light.” The world can seem like a dark place at times but it cannot resist the light of even one small candle. Jesus offers you that candle of Hope.

31 | Sat – Getting acquainted | Read [John 1:9-18](#)

If any Greek or Roman gods visited earth, people would have tried to placate them or rushed to get out of their way. But as John shows us, this God became flesh and made his home among us. Jesus came to make God known and gave those who believed in him the right to become children of God. If you want to understand what God is like, get to know Jesus...what he said, how he lived, who he loved, and how he died. God in the flesh.