

Christmas is...

LESSON 1 // A PROMISE FULFILLED

Big Idea: To understand Christmas, we must understand its connection with promise. The coming of Jesus Christ into the world was something God promised us. We needed a Savior and God sent His Son to fulfill this need.

Promises are valuable because they meet needs in our lives. Fulfilled promises, like the coming of Christ, bring joy. And fulfilled promises also bring faith for the future—hope for something better up ahead.

Luke 2:6-11 (NIV) *While they were there, the time came for the baby to be born, and she gave birth to her firstborn, a son. She wrapped him in cloths and placed him in a manger, because there was no guest room available for them. And there were shepherds living out in the fields nearby, keeping watch over their flocks at night. An angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. But the angel said to them, “Do not be afraid. I bring you good news that will cause great joy for all the people. Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; he is the Messiah, the Lord.”*

Start Talking:

How would you answer someone who asked, “What is the real meaning of Christmas”?

Start Thinking:

Read 2 Corinthians 1:20. Why are God’s promises so valuable to you as a believer in Jesus?

Read Matthew 1:23. What are some of the ways Jesus’ coming into our world fulfilled promises?

Read Luke 2:6-11. How is the message of Christmas a source of joy for you?

Read Jeremiah 29:11 and Hebrews 10:35-36. What promises from God give you confidence about your future?

Start Praying:

Pray that the true message of Jesus’ coming will be clear, encouraging and compelling for you in this season—so that you will want to share the good news about Him with others.

Start Doing:

Look for opportunities this Christmas season to talk with family, friends and others about the good news—why Jesus came and the promise of salvation He fulfilled.

This might feel challenging or even awkward, but meals and casual conversations may present natural openings to discuss the real meaning of Christmas since the focus, and even the songs, of the season are so much about Christ. Be prepared and prayerful and you never know how God can use you!

