SMITH FOR CHRIST

TEACHING THE WORD · WATCHING THE TIMES

REFLECTION JOURNAL · FIVE DAYS

Luke

Chapter 2

A Savior Born in the City of David

MEMORY VERSE · LUKE 2:11

"for today in the city of David there has been born for you a Savior, who is Christ the Lord."

THIS JOURNAL BELONGS TO _____

BEFORE YOU BEGIN

This week in Luke 2

The Son of God was born where animals ate, and the first men to hear about it were working the night shift. This week, let Luke 2 remind you that Jesus came low enough for any man to reach — and then ask yourself whether you have made room for Him.

How to use this journal

1. Each day, read the passage slowly — out loud if you can.
2. Answer the **Observe** question from the text before you write what it means.
3. Write honestly on the **Reflect** questions. No one grades this.
4. Do the **Respond** step today, not someday. Say the memory verse.
5. Bring this journal to the group. The last page is for the table.

The full Deep Dive, the O·I·A study and the slides for this chapter are on the Luke study page.

WHERE I AM AS I START THIS CHAPTER

What is going on in my life right now that I want to bring to God this week?

DAY 1 OF 5

No Room

READ · LUKE 2:1–7

OBSERVE — WHAT DOES IT SAY?

Who gave the order that moved Joseph and Mary, where did they go, and where was Jesus laid after He was born (2:1–7)?

REFLECT

Caesar thought he was running the world, but God used his decree to bring Jesus to Bethlehem (2:1–4). Where do you need to trust that God is working through people who do not know Him?

REFLECT

Luke says "there was no room for them in the inn" (2:7). What is crowding Jesus out of your days right now — and what is one thing you could move to make room?

RESPOND — TODAY

Set aside fifteen minutes today that belong only to Jesus — no phone, no noise — and spend it reading this chapter and praying.

☐ READ IT ☐ PRAYED IT ☐ SAID THE MEMORY VERSE (LUKE 2:11)

DAY 2 OF 5

Good News of Great Joy

READ · LUKE 2:8–20

OBSERVE — WHAT DOES IT SAY?

What did the angel tell the shepherds, what sign did he give, and what did the shepherds do afterward (2:10–12, 15–20)?

REFLECT

God sent His first message about Jesus to shepherds in the fields at night (2:8). How does it change the way you see yourself to know that God chose ordinary working men first?

REFLECT

The shepherds told others; Mary "treasured all these things, pondering them in her heart" (2:17–19). Which do you need more of right now — telling or treasuring — and why?

RESPOND — TODAY

Tell one person today, in two or three sentences, what Jesus means to you — just as the shepherds "made known the statement" (2:17).

☐ READ IT ☐ PRAYED IT ☐ SAID THE MEMORY VERSE (LUKE 2:11)

DAY 3 OF 5

My Eyes Have Seen

READ · LUKE 2:21–35

OBSERVE — WHAT DOES IT SAY?

What did Mary and Joseph offer at the temple, and what did Simeon say when he took Jesus in his arms (2:24, 28–32)?

REFLECT

They brought the offering of the poor — two birds instead of a lamb (2:24). What does it mean to you that Jesus grew up in a family without much money?

REFLECT

Simeon was ready to "depart in peace" because he had seen God's salvation (2:29–30). What would have to change for you to face the end of your life with that kind of peace?

RESPOND — TODAY

Pray Simeon's words slowly today (2:29–32), and thank God by name for the salvation you have seen in Jesus.

☐ READ IT ☐ PRAYED IT ☐ SAID THE MEMORY VERSE (LUKE 2:11)

DAY 4 OF 5

She Never Left

READ · LUKE 2:36–40

OBSERVE — WHAT DOES IT SAY?

How old was Anna, how did she spend her days, and whom did she talk to about Jesus (2:36–38)?

REFLECT

Anna had lost her husband long before and "never left the temple, serving night and day with fastings and prayers" (2:37). How has loss in your life pushed you toward God — or away from Him?

REFLECT

Anna "continued to speak of Him to all those who were looking for the redemption of Jerusalem" (2:38). Who around you is looking for hope and needs to hear about Jesus from you?

RESPOND — TODAY

Spend extra time in prayer today for one person who is grieving, and reach out to him or her with a word of hope.

☐ READ IT ☐ PRAYED IT ☐ SAID THE MEMORY VERSE (LUKE 2:11)

DAY 5 OF 5

My Father's House

READ · LUKE 2:41–52

OBSERVE — WHAT DOES IT SAY?

Where did Mary and Joseph finally find Jesus, what was He doing, and what did He say to them (2:46–49)?

REFLECT

Jesus' parents went a whole day's journey before they noticed He was not with them (2:44). Have you ever gone a long way in life assuming Jesus was with you without checking? What brought you back?

REFLECT

Jesus knew He belonged in His Father's house, yet He went home and "continued in subjection" to His parents (2:49–51). Where is God asking you to be faithful in ordinary, unseen obedience?

RESPOND — TODAY

Do one ordinary duty today — at work, at home, or for someone in authority over you — carefully and without complaint, as your Father's business.

☐ READ IT ☐ PRAYED IT ☐ SAID THE MEMORY VERSE (LUKE 2:11)

WHEN THE GROUP MEETS

Questions for the table

FOR THE GROUP · 1

The angels sang "Glory to God in the highest, And on earth peace" (2:14). Where have you seen God bring peace — with Him, in yourself, or with another man — this week?

FOR THE GROUP · 2

Simeon told Mary that Jesus would cause "the fall and rise of many" and be "a sign to be opposed" (2:34). Where have you seen people take sides over Jesus, and how did you respond?

FOR THE GROUP · 3

Jesus grew "in wisdom and stature, and in favor with God and men" (2:52). In which of those four areas do you most want to grow this year, and what step will you take?

MY PRAYER

Lord Jesus, You were laid in a manger so that men like me could come near, so today I make room for You and ask You to...

CUT OUT · CARRY IT · LUKE 2:11

"for today in the city of David there has been born for you a Savior, who is Christ the Lord."