

Youth At-Home Sunday School

Gospel means “Good News,” as in the Good News that Jesus came to rescue sinners through his own life, death and resurrection. Take time this weekend to dig a little deeper into our content in the Gospels of Luke and John!

High School

If you haven’t already, begin by watching [the Gospel Project’s Luke overview](#) (watch to 1:30 if you don’t want to view the whole thing). You can also [check out their video on Luke 1 and 2](#) for more on our “Christmas in October” miniseries in Luke!

Then I encourage you to return to the questions we addressed on Tuesday night. **Read Luke 2:1-21** and take time to journal about the questions below and/or to talk them over as a family.

Journal Questions:

Observe: List the who, what, when, and where of the passage. (Let multiple people answer.)

What stands out to you about Mary and Joseph’s experience? About the shepherds’ experience?

How did the shepherds respond to the things they saw and heard? (vv. 15, 17, 20)

Interpret: What is significant about Jesus’ being born in Bethlehem, “to the house of David?” (v. 4)

Why is it significant that shepherds were the first ones to hear about Jesus?

Thinking back to last week’s discussion, what do you think it means that Mary “treasured up all these things and pondered them in her heart?” (v. 19)

Apply: What does it tell us about God’s character that he allowed His Son to be born in a stable and that He announced this first to shepherds in a field?

How does this challenge us to live differently in our lives day to day?

As you’ve heard this story again, is there anything new you’ve noticed that helps you to know God and His love?

Closing Thoughts:

Throughout Luke’s Gospel, we’ll notice a reversal of who is outside God’s kingdom and who is inside. Those who imagined themselves as “insiders” (the Jewish religious leaders) often showed themselves to be far way from Jesus, while those who felt like “outsiders” came near to follow Jesus. In the first moments of Jesus’ life, we already see this great reversal happening. As Paul will later write in 1 Corinthians 1:27-30:

But God chose the foolish things of the world to shame the wise; God chose the weak things of the world to shame the strong. God chose the lowly things of this world and the despised things—and the things that are not—to nullify the things that are, so that no one may boast before him. It is because of him that you are in Christ Jesus, who has become for us wisdom from God—that is, our righteousness, holiness and redemption.

The story of Jesus’ birth reminds us of the lengths that God went to in order to save us for Himself. This week, reflect on His love for you and how He has invited you to be an insider in His kingdom!

Written and edited by C.K. Erickson and the HYM student leader team

Middle School

If you haven't already, watch [the Gospel Project's overview of the Gospel of John](#) (you can just watch until 1:27 if you don't want to watch the whole video).

Then I encourage you to return to the questions we addressed on Wednesday night. **Read John 1:19-36**, and take time to journal about the questions below and/or to talk them over as a family.

Journal Questions:

A. WHAT?

- 1) What was the problem at the wedding (v. 3)?
- 2) What was Jesus' response to Mary when she approached Him (v. 4)?
- 3) Who are the witnesses to Jesus' first miracle (vv. 2-4)?

B. SO WHAT?

- 1) Why do you think Jesus' first miracle of turning water into wine is essentially a private miracle?
- 2) What do Mary's words, "do whatever he tells you," tell us about her faith in him?

C. NOW WHAT?

- 1) By turning the water into wine, Jesus showed that he cares about the details of our lives and has power to act. Where would you like to know his care and power in your own life? Let's pray together about these things!
- 2) Is there a part of your life where you need to obey Jesus and "do whatever he tells you?" How could you ask him to help you? We can pray about this, too!

MAIN TAKEAWAY

Jesus is powerful to act in even the smallest of details—like turning water to wine at a wedding. This first miracle pointed to Jesus' heart and mission of bringing people into his forever kingdom. Just as he invited the first disciples to "come and see," he has invited us to follow him and to join the celebration of life with him forever!

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