

BORN IN A BARN

What do we learn of God through the birth of Jesus?

1. The humility of our Savior
2. The approachability of our Savior
3. The underdog nature of our Savior

What then should we do about it?

1. Emulate Him
2. Accept His Gift of a relationship and salvation
3. Display the heart of a Child and simply love Him by loving others

How will you do that **TODAY?**

DAILY BIBLE READINGS DECEMBER 29-JANUARY 4

Follow-throughs

Monday **Luke 2:41-52**

Do you find comfort that Jesus, like you, learned and grew? In what ways this week do you need to grow in wisdom and stature? Write them down and commit them to God.

Tuesday **Luke 2:41-52**

Read this passage again and meditate on Jesus' growing in favor with God and men. Do you ever prioritize the growing in favor with men over God? What priorities do you need to realign so that you are first and foremost growing with God? Pray that our youth at Grace will do that in their schools and on the sports fields.

Wednesday **Hebrews 4:7**

Do you pray with the same emotion and sense of urgency as Jesus? Why not? Many of us cry and weep with others? Why is it so difficult to do so with God? Try to find 10 minutes today where you can pour out your heart to God, your deepest fears and needs. Write it out if you need to, take a walk.

Thursday **Hebrews 4:8**

When you read this verse, what strikes you about the phrase, "learned obedience."? So many people think that Jesus could NOT be tempted, that he was impervious to temptation. But this implies that your savior, though sinless, still had to go through the things you did. He chose to walk that path so you could better fellowship with him. Are there those in your life who you refuse to "walk with"? Can you re-connect with them this week?

Friday **Hebrews 2:17-18**

Read this a few times, slowly, over and over...what words or thoughts spring out? Ask God to speak to you through this verse and to apply what He is teaching you.

Warm-ups

Saturday **Genesis 1:26-28**

What does it mean to be created "in the image of God." In what ways do we resemble God? In what ways is he different from us? What is the significance of God saying "Let us"? What hints does this passage provide concerning the God who is one yet three?

Sunday **John 17:20-23**

In what respects are our relationships with one another as believers supposed to resemble the relationship between God the Father and Jesus, God the Son? What will be the impact of such relationships on the world around us?