

## The Birth of Jesus - Luke 2:1-7

**Topics:** Celebration, Children, Circumstances, Citizenship, Government, History, Jesus Christ, Parents, Prophecy, Schedule, Simplicity, Timing

### Open It

1. What feelings do you get when you have to fill out income tax forms?
2. What nationalities or cultures make up the ancestry of your family?
- \* 3. When you think about uncomfortable travel, what personal experiences do you recall?

### Explore It

4. Who decreed that a census be taken of the entire Roman world? (2:1)
5. What historical facts did Luke provide that allow us to approximate the date of Christ's birth? (2:1-2)
6. What did the Roman census require of everyone? (2:3)
- \* 7. What was the purpose of Joseph and Mary's trip to Bethlehem? (2:1-4)
8. What reason did Luke give for Joseph having to travel to Bethlehem for the census? (2:4)
9. What did Luke say about Bethlehem which indicates it was a famous place? (2:4)
10. What was Joseph and Mary's marital status at the time of Jesus' birth? (2:5)
- \* 11. Why was travel especially difficult for Mary? (2:5)
12. What details about the birth of Jesus do we know or can we infer from Luke's description? (2:5-7)
- \* 13. What were the conditions in Bethlehem the night Jesus was born? (2:7)

### Get It

14. How well have Christmas carols captured the significance of the birth Luke described?
- \* 15. How are people like the town of Bethlehem on the night of Christ's birth?
16. What can we learn about responding to unexpected difficulties from the examples of Mary and Joseph?
- \* 17. In what ways did God manage the events of history to get Joseph and Mary where He wanted them at the appropriate time?
18. In what way was Christ's birth a simple event?
19. How do you celebrate Christ's birth?

### Apply It

20. In what ways can you praise God this week for Jesus' arrival into the world?
21. What is one aspect of Christmas that you want to emphasize more next Christmas?
- \* 22. How can you honor Jesus with your Christmas celebrations?