



Small Group/ Reflection Notes

	17-12-2024	Advent – No outsiders	
 Start	<input type="checkbox"/>		
 Discuss	<input type="checkbox"/> What's your <i>first</i> Christmas memory? <input type="checkbox"/> What's your <i>best</i> Christmas memory? <input type="checkbox"/> What's your <i>worst</i> Christmas memory?		
 Read	Luke 2:1-20	 Listen again	ChesterRoadBaptist.org.uk/Watch
 Explore	<input type="checkbox"/> v.1-3 : What does the mention of Caesar Augustus & Quirinius tell us about the historical reliability of what follows? Why have a Census? What would living under military occupation <input type="checkbox"/> v.4-5 : What might that 80-mile journey have been like? For Mary? (heavily pregnant, shamed..) For Joseph (confused, hurt..)? <input type="checkbox"/> v.6-7 : Given the ‘hospitality code’, why were Mary & Joseph left to give birth with the animals? What does that say about their wider family? The community? Though not ours, why was this God’s ‘birth plan’? What’s the significance of the cloths? See John 20:3-9 . <input type="checkbox"/> v.8-9 : Why were shepherds judged ‘unclean’? Why do the angels appear to <i>them</i> , not to the priests? What was God demonstrating? <input type="checkbox"/> v.10-12 : What’s the significance of ‘born to <i>you</i> ’? For the shepherds? For us? In the wooden manger and wooden cross Jesus was powerless, unable to control His movements. How do you react to a powerless, vulnerable Jesus? See Philippians 2:5-11 . Why can spiritual encounters/ worship sometimes ‘spook’ people? <input type="checkbox"/> v.13-14 : In the nativity, who does God’s favour rest? How does this compare to popular assumptions? <input type="checkbox"/> v.15-18 : When/ how has your curiosity led you to discover something new or surprising? <input type="checkbox"/> v.19 : What was Mary processing? Why is it not always appropriate to share everything with everyone?		
 Go further	<input type="checkbox"/> How are angels often caricatured? <input type="checkbox"/> Who/ what are angels? <input type="checkbox"/> What part do angels play in Christian faith?		
 Reflect	<input type="checkbox"/> Which one verse stands out to you? Why do you think it grabs your attention? <input type="checkbox"/> Which verse(s) will you need to think more about? Why? About the historicity		

	<p>Do</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Reach out to someone at Christmas/ New Year. <input type="checkbox"/> Invite someone to a Christmas event/ service at Chester Road Baptist Church.</p>
	<p>Pray</p> <p>Dear God, I thank you that _____. Show me more of Your _____. Teach me to be more _____. </p>
	<p>My questions:</p>

If you're not yet in a small group, why not join one! Check out: ChesterRoadBaptist.org.uk/SmallGroups
Can't see a group to suit your availability/interest? Start one! SmallGroups@ChesterRoadBaptist.org.uk.

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