

**day 1:** (Luke 2: 1-20) What do you think of this plan of God? Have you heard it so many times that you've become numb to the wonder of it all? Shepherds visited by angels choirs and a government census fulfilling the prophecies of old? What an astounding God we serve! His miracles and plans exceed our wildest imaginations. What character in this story impacts you the most? Why? What is the Lord teaching you through that character?

**day 2:** (Luke 2: 1-4, John 7: 37-44, Micah 5: 2) When I read these passages, I thank God that I can trust him. If he can visit the prophet Micah centuries before Jesus' birth, and if he can move the heart of Caesar Augustus to issue a decree for a census, all to fulfill the scriptural prophecy that the Savior would be born of the lineage of David and in the city of Bethlehem, then I'm sure I can put my life into his hands. Are you holding anything back from God? Do you think you could trust him with it?

**day 3:** (Luke 2: 8-10, Luke 1: 26-30, Luke 1: 11-13, Matthew 1: 18-21) Did you hear a theme when you read these passages? Read them again and look for the words, "Do not fear" or "Don't be afraid..." Consistently in the passages surrounding Jesus' birth, the angels dispel the inevitable fears of the people involved. The presence and the plans of God are so much bigger than us, we can often frustrate them because we surrender to our fears. Hear the Lord say, "Don't be afraid..." today, and do as he says.

**day 4:** (Luke 2: 1-20) Today is the day! Merry Christmas. Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace to men on whom his favor rests. Today, open this passage and read it with your family. May the Lord himself bless you Christmas celebrations.

**day 5:** (Matthew 1: 18-25, Luke 1: 26-38, 46-56) Have you ever tried to imagine being Mary or Joseph? It's difficult to imagine what it must have been like. Just ordinary folks, but ordinary folks with an incredible love for God and devotion to him. Admittedly their story would be somewhat fantastic sounding to others, yet they were obedient at every turn. Their testimony makes me examine my own love and obedience.

**day 6:** (Luke 2: 15 - 20) Simple men, those shepherds...simple obedient, trustworthy, hardworking men. Having seen and heard the angels, they immediately take off to discover for themselves this truth. We have seen, we have heard, this Christmas season. Have you experienced the gift of Christmas for yourself? "Unwrap" the story of Jesus and make it a part of your life.

## *The Angel Choir*

Sunday, December 21, 2008

### Luke 2:1-14

- I. The eternal transcendent God is making himself known (v.9)
  
- II. This Baby is our Savior (v. 11)
  
- III. This birth means that the saving is for everyone (v. 10)
  
- IV. This birth fulfills scripture (v. 11)
  
- V. This birth inspires praising (v. 13)
  
- VI. This birth declares that peace and favor are God's good plans for us (v. 14)