



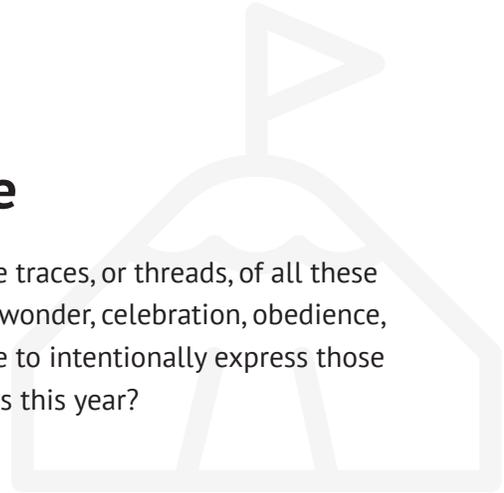
SUMMARY | Different perspectives on any situation can often bring clarity to our own blind spots and enrich our understanding of that event. This is also true of the events surrounding the birth of Jesus; and in Luke 2 we are given several different perspectives on God’s amazing and personal intervention into human history. Those perspectives—from people who witnessed them—can make our own celebrations of Christ’s nativity all the more meaningful.

This Week’s Discussion Questions

1. Why do you think people can have varying perspectives of the same event?
How can those different perspectives inform us about the true nature of the event?
2. Read Luke 2:8–14. Who were the angels? How does their appearance provide us a heavenly perspective on Jesus’ birth? What was the theme of their message?
3. Consider the experience of Mary and all that the birth of Jesus must have meant to her. In Luke 2:19, how does she respond to the appearance of the shepherds and the message of the angels?
4. Who were the shepherds (see Luke 2:8–20) and why was their involvement in the events of Luke 2 so impressive? What does their inclusion tell us about the rescue Jesus had come to provide?

Challenge

All of our Christmas celebrations should embrace traces, or threads, of all these reactions of the witnesses of Luke 2—exaltation, wonder, celebration, obedience, contentment, and witness. How might you be able to intentionally express those responses in your celebrations this year?



Commit To Memory

But Mary treasured up all these things and pondered them in her heart.

Luke 2:19



Prayer

Loving Lord, thank You for coming to our rescue—for humbling Yourself to take on human flesh and live in the dust of this troubled world and then bear our sins to secure our redemption. Help me this Christmas to honor You with my whole heart and with deep gratitude for all You have done for me.

Amen.

