



PAUL'S

# Christmas Story

**SUMMARY** | The Christmas story recounts one of the most beloved events of scripture—the birth of Jesus. Yet, while Matthew and Luke focus on those events as they occurred in human history, Paul approaches the birth of Christ from a much more theological perspective. As such, the apostle tells the same story, but from a decidedly different angle. We want to explore it together in this episode of *Discover the Word*.

## This Week's Discussion Questions

1. [Read Galatians 4:4-5](#). Have you ever considered the timing of the birth of Christ?

Consider some of the elements that could have made that particular moment in history “the fullness of time.”

2. Paul wrote that “God sent His Son...” ([Galatians 4:4](#)). Though Jesus was certainly born, he was different from all other births because he came from somewhere else—the presence of the Father. What do you make of that? Why is it significant?

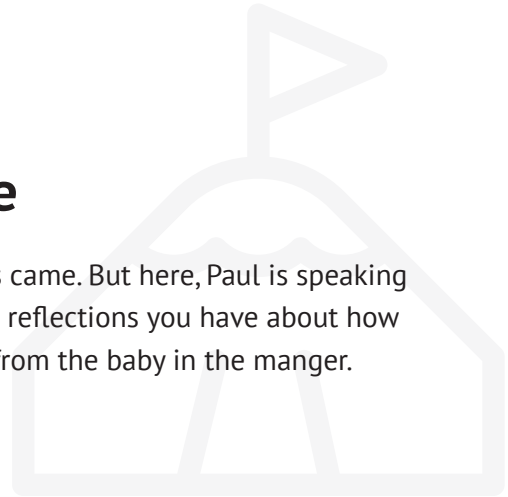
3. We also see that Jesus was born both of a woman and under the law ([Galatians 4:4](#)).

Why are both parts of that statement important to His mission of rescue?

4. The Bible uses the language of adoption as one way to describe our inclusion into God's family ([Galatians 4:5](#)). What might be some implications of that word picture?

## Challenge

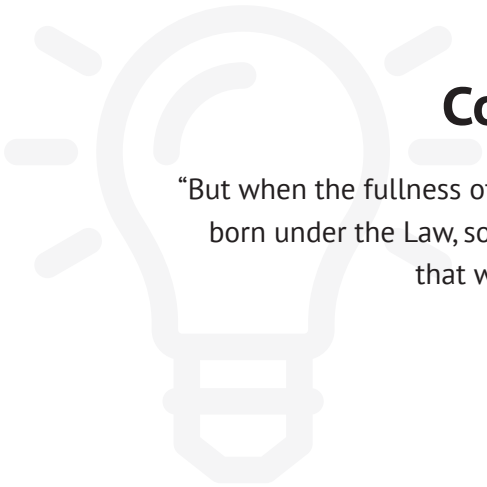
At Christmas we often reflect on the fact that Jesus came. But here, Paul is speaking profoundly about why Jesus came. Write down five reflections you have about how the mission of the cross cannot be separated from the baby in the manger.



## Commit To Memory

“But when the fullness of the time came, God sent forth His Son, born of a woman, born under the Law, so that He might redeem those who were under the Law, that we might receive the adoption as sons.”

[Galatians 4:4-5](#)



## Prayer

Father, it is staggering to consider what it cost You to purchase our redemption and what it cost Jesus to come to us as a human being and die in our place. Amidst the joy of the Christmas season, may You fill my heart with joy and thanksgiving over the sacrifices You have made for me. Amen.

