

The Christmas Story



Do you have a memorable Christmas
that didn't go the way you imagined?



Joseph & Mary
week 1

The Shepherds
week 2

The Angel's Announcement
week 3

The Christmas Story
Luke 2



Mary & Joseph



two lessons on deepening your faith
this Christmas season



Luke 2

In those days Caesar Augustus issued a decree that a census should be taken of the entire Roman world. ² (This was the first census that took place while Quirinius was governor of Syria.) ³ And everyone went to their own town to register. ⁴ So Joseph also went up from the town

of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to Bethlehem the town of David, because he belonged to the house and line of David. ⁵ He went there to register with Mary, who was pledged to be married to him and was expecting a child.

Mary & Joseph

make a 90-mile journey for a tax census
while Mary's 8 months pregnant!





Luke 2

⁶ While they were there, the time came for the baby to be born, ⁷ and she gave birth to her firstborn, a son. She wrapped him in cloths and placed him in a manger, because there was no guest room available for them.





Philippians 2

⁶ Who, being in very nature God, did not consider equality with God something to be used to his own advantage; ⁷ rather, he made himself nothing by taking the very nature of a servant, being made in human likeness.

Luke 2

⁸ And there were shepherds living out in the fields nearby, keeping watch over their flocks at night. ⁹ An angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified.

¹⁰ But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid. I bring you good news that

will cause great joy for all the people. ¹¹ Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; he is the Messiah, the Lord. ¹² This will be a sign to you: You will find a baby wrapped in cloths and lying in a manger."

Luke 2

¹³ Suddenly a great company of the heavenly host appeared with the angel, praising God and saying,

¹⁴ “Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace to those on whom his favor rests.”

¹⁵ When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one

another, “Let’s go to Bethlehem and see this thing that has happened, which the Lord has told us about.”

Luke 2

¹⁶ So they hurried off and found Mary and Joseph, and the baby, who was lying in the manger. ¹⁷ When they had seen him, they spread the word concerning what had been told them about this child, ¹⁸ and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds said to them.

¹⁹ But Mary *treasured* up all these things and *pondered* them in her heart.

Faith deepens when you trust God,
even when His plan looks nothing like yours

What's an area of your life
where God's plan doesn't match yours?

Where do you need to trust Him?

What opportunities have opened for you?

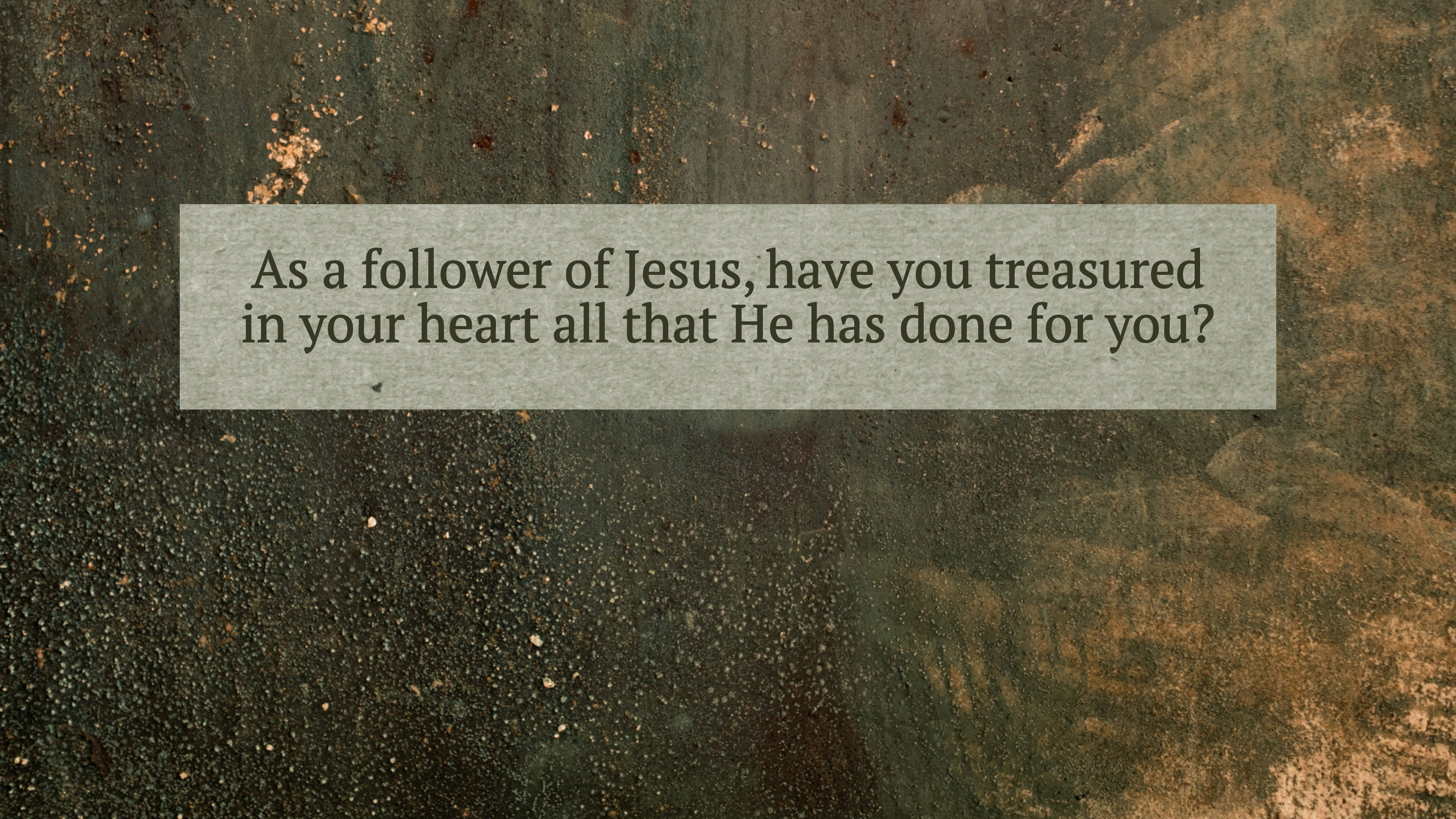
Faith deepens as you reflect
on how God is at work around you.

Are you numb to the birth narrative of Jesus?

Why?

Stress and preoccupation of the holiday season?

Familiar story?

The background is a dark, mottled texture with shades of black, dark green, and brown, resembling aged parchment or a rough stone surface. A light gray rectangular box is centered horizontally and vertically, containing the text.

As a follower of Jesus, have you treasured
in your heart all that He has done for you?