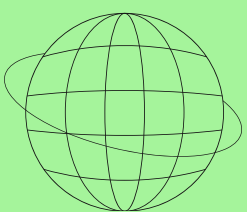


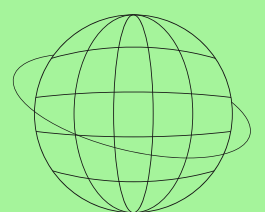
GOD WITH US

The Arrival, Announcement &
Assignment Of Immanuel

Week #1



The Arrival



CONTENTS

HOW TO LEAD YOUR YCI CLUB

Play

Play a game together.

Pray

Spend time praising and thanking God in prayer.

Grow

Learn from Scripture about who God says He is and how we should respond to Him.

Go

Look for opportunities to share the Gospel, and serve others in your community with your YCI club members.



TIPS FOR USING THIS CURRICULUM

*Three Recommendations As You Lead Your Friends In
Playing, Praying, Growing & Going*

1) FAMILIARIZE

Prior to your weekly YCI club gatherings, spend time reading the curriculum to make sure you understand the game and devotional. Leading is easier when you are well-prepared!

2) ORGANIZE

The "Grow" portion of the YCI Club Curriculum gives you the "pieces" for a devotional, but it is up to you to put the pieces together. You may want to give "Book, Hook, Look & Took" a try:

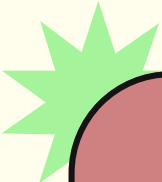
- 1) **Book:** Read the Bible verses.
- 2) **Hook:** Share a brief personal story or idea that relates to the Scripture.
- 3) **Look:** Share the context of the Scripture.
- 4) **Took:** Share the takeaways from the "Learn & Apply" section.

3) CUSTOMIZE

Since every YCI club is different, it is important that you modify this content to fit your context. If you need help with this, we encourage you to reach out to your club's Campus Mentor!



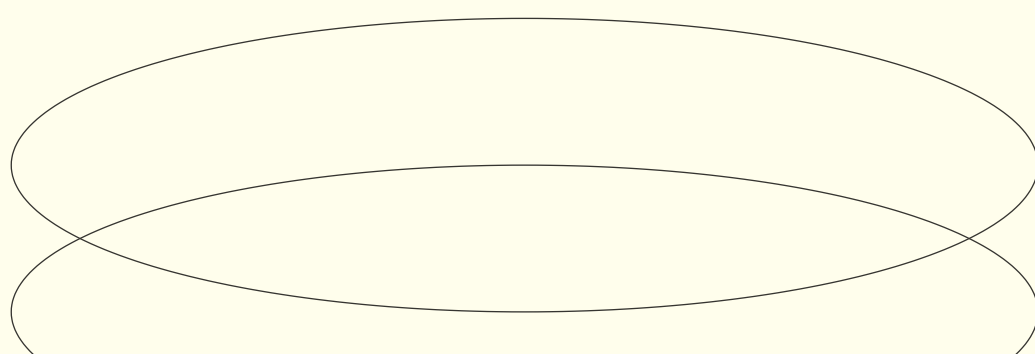
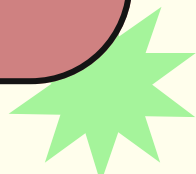
TELEPHONE CHARADES!



First, one person should be chosen as the "Telephone Operator," and the rest of the YCI club should form a single line, with each student facing the back of another student's head. Once the line is formed, the Telephone Operator should whisper a phrase into the ear of the person at the back of the line.

Next, the person at the back of the line should tap the shoulder of the next person in line and proceed to "act out" the phrase that the Telephone Operator whispered in their ear. One by one, each student will do their best to act out what they think the phrase is to the next person in line. Once everyone has acted out the phrase, the last person in line should guess what the original phrase was.

Unlike most games, this one really doesn't have a winner. The purpose is to create a fun environment that gets everyone laughing!



ASK GOD FOR HIS WILL TO BE DONE IN THESE AREAS:

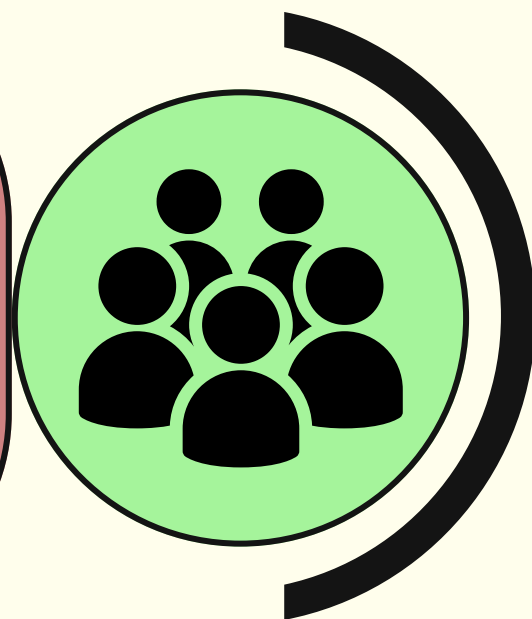


Club Time

Pray that God will speak to everyone in the room through His Word.

Group Needs

Take time to discuss and pray over the personal needs and requests of those in attendance.

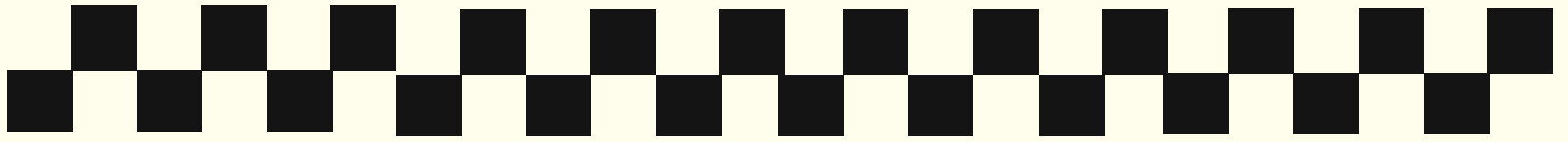


School Community

Ask God to move in situations that are unique to your school and community.



WHERE WE'RE GOING



While many of us have a general understanding of the Christmas story, it can be easy to overlook the magnitude of what took place in Bethlehem over 2,000 years ago. The Son of God, who has been ruling and reigning since before the beginning of time, demonstrates radical humility through placing Himself at the level of man, fulfilling Isaiah 7:14: "...Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and shall call his name Immanuel [translated *God with us*]" .

In the "***God With Us***" curriculum, we will walk through Luke 2:1-38 and take a closer look at three key components of the Christmas story:

- 1) **The Arrival:** Luke 2:1-7
- 2) **The Announcement:** Luke 2:8-21
- 3) **The Assignment:** Luke 2:22-38

Prayerfully, through this study, we will develop a deeper understanding that Immanuel not only *came* to us, but He is *still with us* as we navigate this broken world!

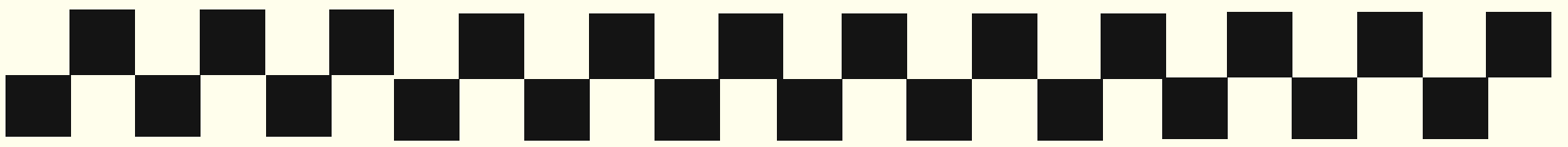


LUKE 2:1–7 (ESV)

"In those days a decree went out from Caesar Augustus that all the world should be registered. **2** This was the first registration when Quirinius was governor of Syria. **3** And all went to be registered, each to his own town. **4** And Joseph also went up from Galilee, from the town of Nazareth, to Judea, to the city of David, which is called Bethlehem, because he was of the house and lineage of David, **5** to be registered with Mary, his betrothed, who was with child. **6** And while they were there, the time came for her to give birth. **7** And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in swaddling cloths and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn."



GOD WITH US: THE ARRIVAL



A Return Home

As the result of a Roman decree, Joseph and Mary are required to travel from Nazareth to Bethlehem (the city of David) at the peak of Mary's pregnancy. As this young couple returns to the homeland of Joseph's ancestors, the Son of God is preparing to leave His home in heaven to redeem our broken world!

A Lack Of Room

Curiously, God's sovereignty does not allow for a comfortable space where Mary can deliver her child. For the remainder of His life on earth, Jesus continually finds Himself in environments of rejection and indifference.

An Unremarkable Birth

In a city far from home, with nothing but a manger (feeding trough) to lay her child in, Mary delivers the Savior of the world. From His birth in Bethlehem to His crucifixion at Golgotha, the King of Kings chooses to live the life of a lowly servant.



LET'S TALK ABOUT THIS

Small Group Questions
(If Time Allows)

QUESTION #1

What is one thing that "jumped out" to you while reading Luke 2:1-7?

QUESTION #2

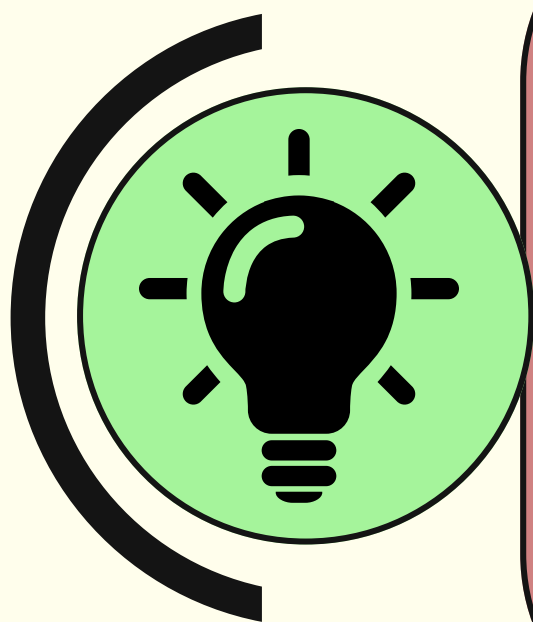
Jesus' birth in Bethlehem (the city of David) fulfills what is written in Micah 5:2. Why is it important to understand that Jesus' birth is a fulfillment of prophecy?

QUESTION #3

Which aspect of Jesus' arrival (the return home, the lack of room and the unremarkable birth) resonated the most with you?



BEFORE YOU GO

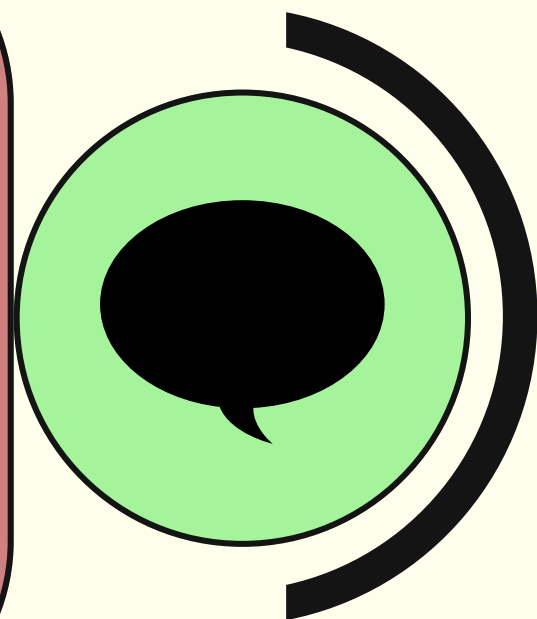


Big Idea

Jesus' arrival is marked by a return home, a lack of room and an unremarkable birth. From the very beginning, the Son of God has defied our expectations!

Sharing Truth

Who is someone in your life that needs to hear about what we discussed today? Pray for them, and find time this week to encourage them.



Meeting Needs

What is something your YCI club can do to show God's love this semester?



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