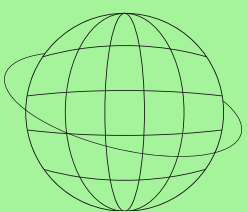


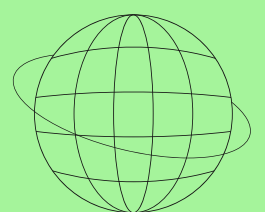
GOD WITH US

The Arrival, Announcement &
Assignment Of Immanuel

Week #2



The Announcement



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.

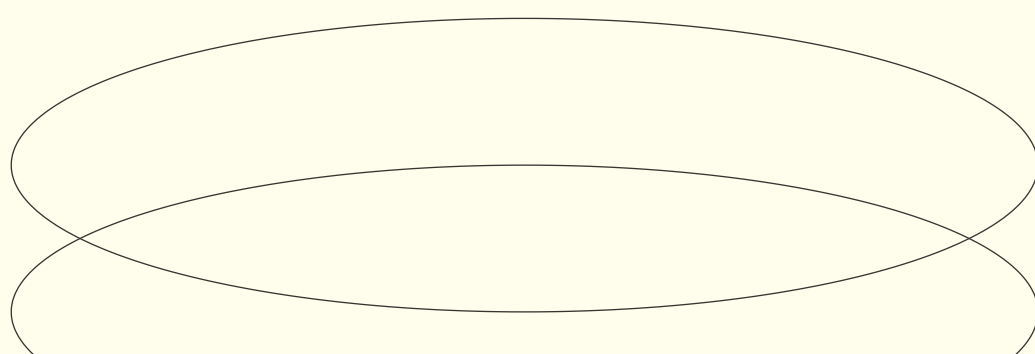
3) CUSTOMIZE

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!



HAND WRESTLING

First, one person should be chosen as the "Game Leader", and everyone else should choose a partner and move to an open space in the room. Next, each pair should assume the "dap up" hand position and place their lead foot next to their partner's lead foot, instep to instep. It's essential that students keep their feet stationary and grounded throughout the activity, and they are only allowed to use their free hand for balance. Following the Game Leader's cue, students aim to push or pull their partner off balance. The first player to move their feet or fall is out of the game, and their opponent proceeds to face a winner from another match. This process continues until only one person remains standing. They are the winner of the game!



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

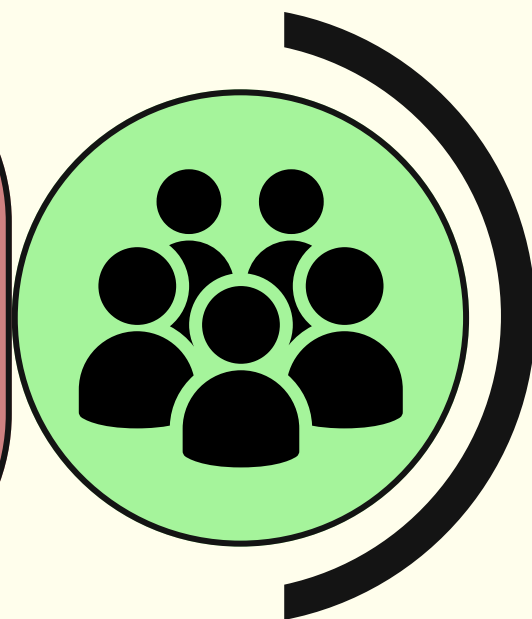


Club Time

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.

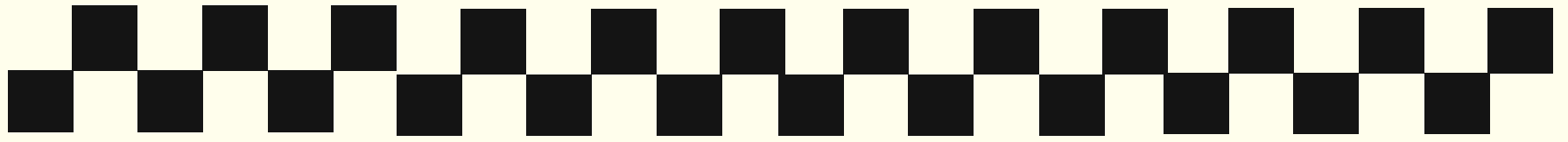


School Community

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



WHERE WE'RE GOING



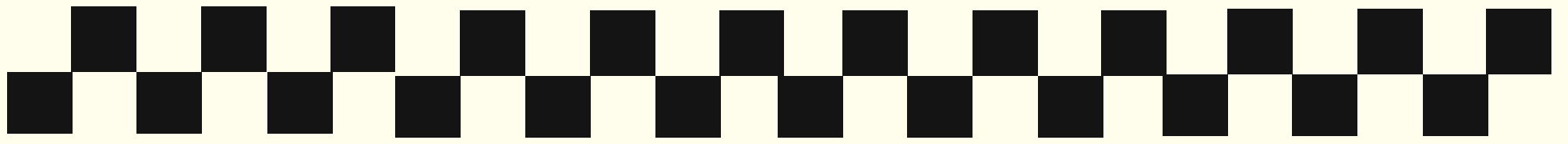
While many of us have a general understanding of the Christmas story, it can be easy to overlook the magnitude of what took place in Bethlehem over 2,000 years ago. The Son of God, who has been ruling and reigning since before the beginning of time, demonstrates radical humility through placing Himself 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

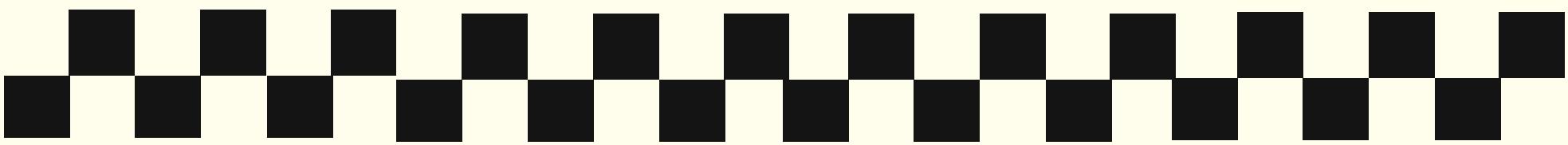
Prayerfully, through this study, we will develop a deeper understanding that Immanuel not only *came* to us, but He is *still with us* as we navigate this broken world!



LUKE 2:8–15 (ESV)

8 And in the same region there were shepherds out in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night. **9** And an angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were filled with great fear. **10** And the angel said to them, "Fear not, for behold, I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people. **11** For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord. **12** And this will be a sign for you: you will find a baby wrapped in swaddling cloths and lying in a manger." **13** And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God and saying, **14** "Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace among those with whom he is pleased!" **15** When the angels went away from them into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, "Let us go over to Bethlehem and see this thing that has happened, which the Lord has made known to us."

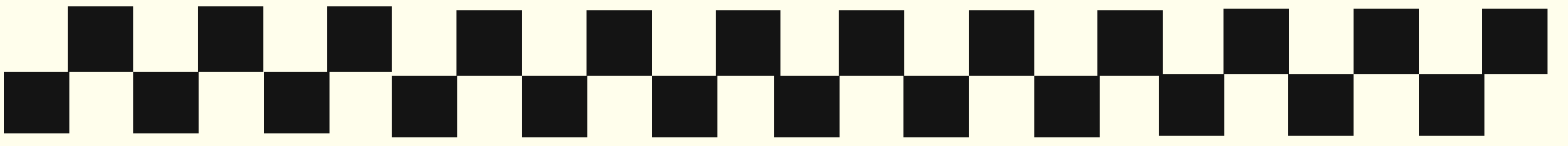


LUKE 2:16–21 (ESV)

"16 And they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the baby lying in a manger. **17** And when they saw it, they made known the saying that had been told them concerning this child. **18** And all who heard it wondered at what the shepherds told them. **19** But Mary treasured up all these things, pondering them in her heart. **20** And the shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them. **21** And at the end of eight days, when he was circumcised, he was called Jesus, the name given by the angel before he was conceived in the womb."



GOD WITH US: THE ANNOUNCEMENT



Unassuming Audience

When something incredible takes place, the first people we inform speaks volumes about our intentions. When the Son of God is born, the first people the angels tell is a group of shepherds. From a social perspective, shepherds are often viewed as lower-class citizens. However, God, who is the "Good Shepherd" (John 10:11), reveals Himself to those who embody His intended mission!

Unexpected Adventure

In response to the news of Jesus' birth, the shepherds visit the newborn child and relay the angel's words to those present. Through this simple action, the shepherds become the first evangelists, journeying to share "good news of great joy" (Luke 2:10)!

Unwavering Alignment

When Gabriel informs Mary that she would miraculously give birth, he instructs her to "call his name Jesus" (Luke 1:31). Despite the magnitude of the responsibility given to her, Mary aligns herself with God's will and names her son Jesus. Only three decades later, Jesus would align Himself to God's plan and *deliver us* from sin and death.



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 2:8-21?

QUESTION #2

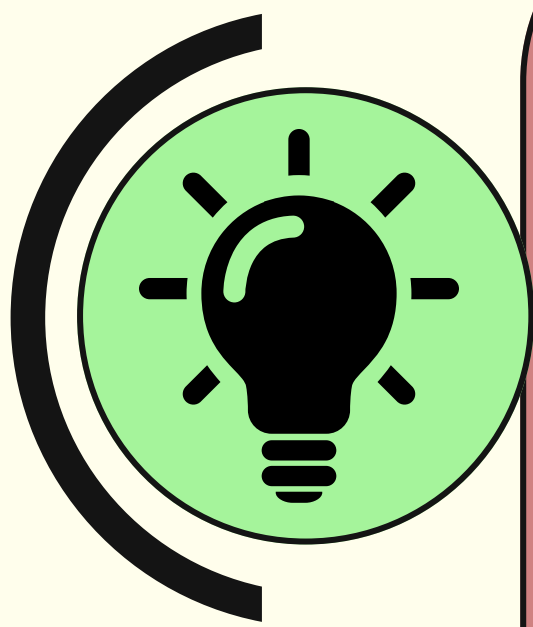
Which of the three elements of the announcement (unassuming audience, unexpected adventure and unwavering alignment) resonated the most with you?

QUESTION #3

After Jesus' birth, the shepherds are the first people to share about "good news of great joy". As followers of Jesus, what is the "good news" that we must share with others?



BEFORE YOU GO

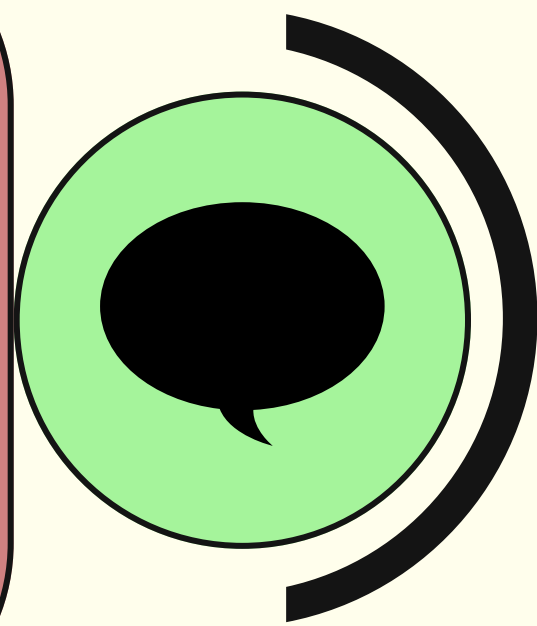


Big Idea

The announcement of Jesus' birth is marked by an unassuming audience, an unexpected adventure and unwavering alignment to God's plan. This sets the stage for Jesus' life and ministry!

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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