

**"Love"**  
**Luke 2:1-7**

1. Jesus' birth fell in the reign of Caesar Augustus, who was made the ruler of the Roman Empire in 27 B.C. and ruled to A.D. 14.

Caesar Augustus declared that a census should be taken and everyone had to return to the town of their ancestors to be accurately counted. Where was Joseph and Mary living when they were betrothed to one another?

2. Where was Joseph's ancestral home?  
Why is this significant?

Read Micah 5:2. What does this say of Bethlehem?

3. Who was Joseph a descendant of?

Read 2 Samuel 7:12-13. Who is the Davidic Covenant ultimately pointing to?

4. Mary and Joseph were housed in quarters that were not private and according to tradition, they were in a cave near the inn. Jesus is born and then placed in a manger. What was a manger used for?

What does this most humble of contexts say about this Newborn King (see Mark 10:45 & John 13:5)?

Mary swaddled Him in cloths (strips of cloth). Why was His wrapping important? Read verse 12.

5. Where do you see love most clearly in Luke 2:1-7?

6. Read John 3:16. What did this say about the love of God for us? As you think of God's love and gift of grace to us, have you opened God's great Christmas present by personally receiving Jesus Christ as your Savior?