

House of Bread



Luke 2:1–12; John 6:35 · This week: We Have Come to Worship Him, Matthew 2; Luke 2

In the manual: **Come, Follow Me lesson 02, “We Have Come to Worship Him,” on Gospel Library**

START

The town where Jesus was born has a name that means house of bread. His first bed was a feeding box for animals (Luke 2:7).

READ TOGETHER

Joseph and Mary went from Nazareth to Bethlehem because Joseph “was of the house and lineage of David” (Luke 2:4). In Hebrew, Bethlehem means house of bread. A manger is the trough that holds food for animals.

LUKE 2:6–7

⁶And so it was, that, while they were there, the days were accomplished that she should be delivered. ⁷And she brought forth her firstborn son, and wrapped him in swaddling clothes, and laid him in a manger; because there was no room for them in the inn.

JOHN 6:35

³⁵And Jesus said unto them, I am the bread of life: he that cometh to me shall never hunger; and he that believeth on me shall never thirst.

WHAT IT TEACHES

The angel gave the shepherds a sign to look for. “Ye shall find the babe wrapped in swaddling clothes, lying in a manger” (Luke 2:12). The Bread of Life was born in the house of bread and laid where food is kept.

Years later, after feeding five thousand people, Jesus taught, “I am the bread of life: he that cometh to me shall never hunger” (John 6:35). He also said, “I am the living bread which came down from heaven” (John 6:51).

Bread keeps a body alive one day at a time, and tomorrow we need it again. We need the Savior the same way, every day.

Each Sunday the sacrament bread helps us remember his body, given for us (Luke 22:19). The baby in the manger grew up to feed the world.

TALK ABOUT IT

Jesus called himself the bread of life. What helps you come to him for strength each day, the way we eat every day?

TAKE TO CHURCH

Jesus, the Bread of Life, was born in Bethlehem, whose name means house of bread, and laid in a manger. We remember him with bread each Sunday.

Herod Was Troubled



Matthew 2:1–12 · This week: We Have Come to Worship Him, Matthew 2; Luke 2

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START

When wise men came to Jerusalem looking for a newborn king, the king already on the throne was troubled (Matthew 2:1–3).

READ TOGETHER

Herod ruled Judea under the Romans and guarded his power fiercely. He called the chief priests and scribes and asked them where the Christ was supposed to be born (Matthew 2:4).

MATTHEW 2:3–6

³When Herod the king had heard these things, he was troubled, and all Jerusalem with him. ⁴And when he had gathered all the chief priests and scribes of the people together, he demanded of them where Christ should be born. ⁵And they said unto him, In Bethlehem of Judaea: for thus it is written by the prophet, ⁶And thou Bethlehem, in the land of Juda, art not the least among the princes of Juda: for out of thee shall come a Governor, that shall rule my people Israel.

WHAT IT TEACHES

The scribes knew the answer right away. Micah had written that a ruler would come out of Bethlehem, a town about five miles south of Jerusalem (Micah 5:2).

The wise men traveled a long way and had to ask where to go. The scribes could quote the verse, and Matthew records no trip by any of

them. Knowing about Jesus and going to him are two different things.

Herod said he wanted to worship the child too, but he meant to kill him (Matthew 2:8; 2:16). The wise men “fell down, and worshipped him,” and gave him gold, frankincense, and myrrh (Matthew 2:11).

God warned the wise men in a dream, and they went home another way (Matthew 2:12). He guided the seekers and protected the child.

TALK ABOUT IT

The scribes knew where the Savior would be born, and the wise men went to find him. What is one thing we know about Jesus that we could act on this week?

TAKE TO CHURCH

The scribes Herod called together could quote Micah’s prophecy about Bethlehem, only a few miles away. The wise men traveled far to worship. Knowing about Jesus becomes worship when we go to him.

Flee into Egypt



Matthew 2:13–23 · This week: We Have Come to Worship Him, Matthew 2; Luke 2

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START

Joseph rose in the night and set out for Egypt with Mary and the young child. An angel had warned him in a dream (Matthew 2:13–14).

READ TOGETHER

Herod meant to kill the child. When the wise men left without reporting back, he ordered the death of the young boys of Bethlehem (Matthew 2:16). Joseph's family was already gone.

MATTHEW 2:13–14

¹³ And when they were departed, behold, the angel of the Lord appeareth to Joseph in a dream, saying, Arise, and take the young child and his mother, and flee into Egypt, and be thou there until I bring thee word: for Herod will seek the young child to destroy him. ¹⁴ When he arose, he took the young child and his mother by night, and departed into Egypt:

MATTHEW 2:19–21

¹⁹ But when Herod was dead, behold, an angel of the Lord appeareth in a dream to Joseph in Egypt, ²⁰ Saying, Arise, and take the young child and his mother, and go into the land of Israel: for they are dead which sought the young child's life. ²¹ And he arose, and took the young child and his mother, and came into the land of Israel.

WHAT IT TEACHES

Joseph received four dreams in Matthew's first two chapters (Matthew 1:20; 2:13; 2:19; 2:22). Each time

he acted right away. He rose "by night" and went (Matthew 2:14).

President Dieter F. Uchtdorf spoke to parents about this kind of help. *"God is eager to pour out His Spirit to guide parents."*

President Dieter F. Uchtdorf, "Jesus Christ Is the Strength of Parents," General conference, April 2023

The angel told Joseph to stay in Egypt until he brought word (Matthew 2:13). Joseph waited for the next message, then brought his family home and settled in Nazareth, guided again by a dream (Matthew 2:19–23).

Matthew saw a pattern. Israel had once come out of Egypt, and now God's Son did too. "Out of Egypt have I called my son" (Matthew 2:15; Hosea 11:1).

TALK ABOUT IT

Joseph listened to the Lord and acted quickly to keep his family safe. What dangers do families face today, and how can we listen for the Lord's warnings?

TAKE TO CHURCH

Joseph had four dreams in two chapters and obeyed every one. Parents today can receive revelation to protect their families, and children can help by listening too.

A Pair of Turtledoves



Luke 2:21–38 · This week: We Have Come to Worship Him, Matthew 2; Luke 2

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START

Forty days after Jesus was born, Mary and Joseph brought him to the temple with an offering of two small birds (Luke 2:22–24; Leviticus 12:2–4).

READ TOGETHER

The law of Moses asked a new mother to bring a lamb and a bird to the temple. A family too poor to buy a lamb could bring two turtledoves or two young pigeons instead (Leviticus 12:6–8).

LUKE 2:22

22 And when the days of her purification according to the law of Moses were accomplished, they brought him to Jerusalem, to present him to the Lord;

LUKE 2:24

24 And to offer a sacrifice according to that which is said in the law of the Lord, A pair of turtledoves, or two young pigeons.

LEVITICUS 12:8

8 And if she be not able to bring a lamb, then she shall bring two turtles, or two young pigeons; the one for the burnt offering, and the other for a sin offering: and the priest shall make an atonement for her, and she shall be clean.

WHAT IT TEACHES

Mary and Joseph brought “a pair of turtledoves, or two young pigeons” (Luke 2:24). That was the offering of a family that could not afford a lamb.

They had little money, and they carried the Lamb of God in their arms.

In the temple, Simeon took the child and called him “a light to lighten the Gentiles, and the glory of thy people Israel” (Luke 2:32). At Christmas we read about his long wait. Today we hear what he told Mary.

Simeon warned her, “a sword shall pierce through thy own soul also” (Luke 2:35). Years later, Mary would stand by the cross (John 19:25). Joy and sorrow both came with her calling.

Anna, a widow who served in the temple night and day, came in at that same moment and gave thanks (Luke 2:37–38). A poor family, a devout man, and an aged widow were among the first to recognize the Savior.

TALK ABOUT IT

Mary and Joseph gave the offering of a poor family. What could we give the Lord this year that costs us something, even something small?

TAKE TO CHURCH

Mary and Joseph brought the offering of a family too poor to buy a lamb. They carried the Lamb of God into the temple in their arms.

My Father's Business



Luke 2:41–51 · This week: We Have Come to Worship Him, Matthew 2; Luke 2

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START

When Jesus was twelve, his parents lost track of him for three days. They found him in the temple (Luke 2:42–46).

READ TOGETHER

Families traveled to Jerusalem each year for the Passover. On the way home, Mary and Joseph thought Jesus was with relatives in the group and walked a full day before they missed him (Luke 2:41–44).

LUKE 2:46–49

⁴⁶And it came to pass, that after three days they found him in the temple, sitting in the midst of the doctors, both hearing them, and asking them questions. ⁴⁷And all that heard him were astonished at his understanding and answers. ⁴⁸And when they saw him, they were amazed: and his mother said unto him, Son, why hast thou thus dealt with us? behold, thy father and I have sought thee sorrowing. ⁴⁹And he said unto them, How is it that ye sought me? wist ye not that I must be about my Father's business?

WHAT IT TEACHES

They found him "sitting in the midst of the doctors," the teachers of the law (Luke 2:46). In the Joseph Smith Translation, the teachers were the ones listening to him and asking him questions. Everyone was "astonished at his understanding and answers" (Luke 2:47).

Mary said, "thy father and I have sought thee sorrowing" (Luke 2:48). Jesus answered, "wist ye not that I must be about my Father's business?" (Luke 2:49). Wist means knew. At twelve he already knew who his Father was and what his work would be.

His Father's business is the work of saving and blessing God's children (Moses 1:39). Twelve-year-olds can do that business too, by serving, by learning, and by teaching others what they know.

Mary and Joseph did not understand his answer at first (Luke 2:50). Jesus went home with them and obeyed them, and his mother "kept all these sayings in her heart" (Luke 2:51).

TALK ABOUT IT

At twelve, Jesus was already doing his Father's work. What part of Heavenly Father's work can someone your age do right now?

TAKE TO CHURCH

At twelve, Jesus taught in the temple and said he must be about his Father's business. Then he went home and obeyed his parents. Both were part of his Father's work.

Wisdom and Stature



Luke 2:40, 51–52 · This week: We Have Come to Worship Him, Matthew 2; Luke 2

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START

Luke covers about eighteen years of Jesus’s life in one verse (Luke 2:52).

READ TOGETHER

After the visit to the temple, Jesus went home to Nazareth with Mary and Joseph and “was subject unto them” (Luke 2:51). He grew up there as the son of a carpenter (Matthew 13:55). He was about thirty when his ministry began (Luke 3:23).

LUKE 2:40

40 And the child grew, and waxed strong in spirit, filled with wisdom: and the grace of God was upon him.

LUKE 2:52

52 And Jesus increased in wisdom and stature, and in favour with God and man.

WHAT IT TEACHES

“And Jesus increased in wisdom and stature, and in favour with God and man” (Luke 2:52). The verse names four ways to grow. Wisdom is the mind, stature is the body, favour with God is the spirit, and favour with man is how we treat others.

Jesus grew a step at a time. Earlier Luke wrote that the child “waxed strong in spirit,

filled with wisdom: and the grace of God was upon him” (Luke 2:40). Waxed means grew.

The Lord revealed that Jesus kept growing from grace to grace until he received a fulness (Doctrine and Covenants 93:12–13). The Son of God grew up the way we do, one day at a time.

Some growth is easy to measure, like height on a doorframe. Growth in favour with God is harder to see, and it is just as real.

TALK ABOUT IT

Luke 2:52 names four ways Jesus grew. Which one would you like to work on in the next month, and what is one small step?

TAKE TO CHURCH

Luke covers about eighteen years of the Savior’s life in one verse. He grew in wisdom, stature, and favour with God and man, and we can grow in the same four ways.

Come to Worship Him



Matthew 2:1–11; Luke 2:15–20 · This week: We Have Come to Worship Him, Matthew 2; Luke 2

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START

The wise men told the people of Jerusalem why they had come. “We have seen his star in the east, and are come to worship him” (Matthew 2:2).

READ TOGETHER

This week’s title comes from that verse. The people who came to the young Jesus included shepherds and scholars, a devout man and an aged widow, neighbors and strangers from far away (Matthew 2:1; Luke 2:15–16; 2:25–38).

MATTHEW 2:11

¹¹ And when they were come into the house, they saw the young child with Mary his mother, and fell down, and worshipped him: and when they had opened their treasures, they presented unto him gifts; gold, and frankincense, and myrrh.

LUKE 2:20

²⁰ And the shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all the things that they had heard and seen, as it was told unto them.

WHAT IT TEACHES

The shepherds said, “Let us now go even unto Bethlehem, and see this thing” (Luke 2:15). Their worship started with going. They left their flocks in the night to find him.

The wise men “fell down, and worshipped him,” then opened their treasures (Matthew 2:11). They gave him gifts from their treasures.

After the shepherds saw him, they “made known abroad the saying” (Luke 2:17). They went back to work “glorifying and praising God” (Luke 2:20). Their worship went home with them to the fields.

Sunday worship works the same way. We come to the Savior in sacrament meeting, and then we carry what we felt back into the week.

TALK ABOUT IT

The shepherds went and told others, and the wise men gave gifts. Which of those could our family do this week to worship him?

TAKE TO CHURCH

The shepherds went to find Jesus and came back praising God. The wise men gave their best. Worship goes to him, gives to him, and tells others about him.