Luke 2 ESV

[1] 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.
[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
Saviour, 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."
[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.

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*After you finished this Christmas study. Order "**Luke – The Call to Follow Jesus"** from precept.org.nz | shop | NISS studies and get an overview over this gospel.*

The Christmas Story

Read Luke 2:1-20 aloud. Simply read the passage aloud, do not mark anything at this time.

Read the passage aloud. Have the group say and circle ***Mary***, including pronouns.

1. Where were Mary and Joseph from?
2. Where did they go? Why?
3. What did she do with the baby when he was born? Discuss what that was like.
4. How did Mary respond to what the shepherds said?

Read the passage aloud. Have the group say and underline ***angel***.

5. How many angels appeared first?
6. How is the angel described?
7. What exactly did the angel say to the shepherds?
8. What happened after the 1st angel finished speaking?

Read the passage aloud. Have the group say and box in ***shepherd(s)***.

9. Where were the shepherds and what were they doing?
10. How did they respond to the angel?
11. Where did they go after the announcement?
12. What did they see in Bethlehem?
13. Discuss what the shepherds told Mary and Joseph and how it must have impacted them.
14. After having seen the baby lying in the manger what did the shepherds do?

Application:

15. Discuss how the shepherds responded to the birth of Jesus.
16. Discuss Mary's response.
17. Compare the two.
18. What should our response be to the birth of Jesus?
19. What could you change in your Christmas traditions to have a "Shepherds" Christmas? A "Mary Christmas"?

Extra: Act out the story. **precept.org.nz**