

HIS NAME IS JESUS, HE IS LIKE NO OTHER

LESSON 2: A BIRTH LIKE NO OTHER

Background Scripture: (Matthew 1:18-23 NLT)

This is how Jesus the Messiah was born. His mother, Mary, was engaged to be married to Joseph. But before the marriage took place, while she was still a virgin, she became pregnant through the power of the Holy Spirit. Joseph, her fiancé, was a good man and did not want to disgrace her publicly, so he decided to break the engagement quietly. As he considered this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream. "Joseph, son of David," the angel said, "do not be afraid to take Mary as your wife. For the child within her was conceived by the Holy Spirit. And she will have a son, and you are to name him Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins." All of this occurred to fulfill the Lord's message through his prophet: "Look! The virgin will conceive a child! She will give birth to a son, and they will call him Immanuel, which means 'God is with us.'"

Luke 1:26-35

Question: *How do you typically introduce yourself to someone new?*

Luke 1:26-31

26 Now in the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent by God to a city of Galilee named Nazareth, 27 to a virgin betrothed to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. The virgin's name was Mary. 28 And having come in, the angel said to her, "Rejoice, highly favored one, the Lord is with you; blessed are you among women!" *(Highly favored: God's grace or favor is His goodness in action. God blessed Mary by giving her a major role in His redemptive purpose.)*

29 But when she saw him, she was troubled at his saying, and considered what manner of greeting this was. *(Troubled: The Greek verb from which this term is derived means "to be stirred up, unsettled, agitated, or confused." It was used to describe water being agitated.)* 30 Then the angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. 31 "And behold, you will conceive in your womb and bring forth a Son, and shall call His name JESUS.

Luke 1:32-33

32 "He will be great, and will be called the Son of the Highest; and the Lord God will give Him the throne of His father David. 33 "And He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of His kingdom there will be no end."

Luke 1:34-35

34 Then Mary said to the angel, "How can this be, since I do not know a man?" 35 And the angel answered and said to her, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Highest will overshadow you; therefore, also, that Holy One who is to be born will be called the Son of God. *(Overshadow: The angel used the term to express God's exercising His creative power to cause Mary to conceive. No sexual overtones are present. The emphasis is God's power to create.)*

Life Application Questions

- Since Jesus existed before time, why is it significant that He came as a baby?
- What is the difference between living in a democracy and living under Jesus as our Sovereign Ruler?
- Since Jesus lived as a man, why is it important to understand He is God?
- Does knowing Jesus influence the choices you make daily? Why or why not?

Live It Out

- **Get to know God' Word.** Meditate on Jesus' divinity and humanity by memorizing Hebrews 4:15-16 over the next few days. Concentrate on the truths those verses express.
- **Invite someone to know Jesus.** Pray for an opportunity to talk with someone who may not realize Jesus is both fully human and fully God. Be honest and encouraging as you share the truth of God's Word.