Incarnation

Jesus: Conception
Monday: Introduction

Anticipation for something good usually adds to the enjoyment of what you are looking forward to. On the other hand, anxiety usually precedes something bad that looms in the future. What are some of your most anticipated events? anxious events?

Label the following events (table below) that people usually anticipate: birth, birthday, Christmas, marriage, vacation

<p>| | | | | |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><img src="image1" alt="Birth" /></td>
<td><img src="image2" alt="Birthday" /></td>
<td><img src="image3" alt="Christmas" /></td>
<td><img src="image4" alt="Marriage" /></td>
<td><img src="image5" alt="Vacation" /></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Label the following events (table below) that people usually are anxious (worried) about: death, fillings, shot, surgery, tests.

<p>| | | | | |</p>
<table>
<thead>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><img src="image6" alt="Death" /></td>
<td><img src="image7" alt="Filling" /></td>
<td><img src="image8" alt="Shot" /></td>
<td><img src="image9" alt="Surgery" /></td>
<td><img src="image10" alt="Tests" /></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Preview

This week you will study the most anticipated event in all of history—the birth of God’s only begotten (physically born) son. In fact, the coming of God’s son to earth was anticipated (fore-ordained) before the ________________________ (1Pet 1:18-20).

Use the references below to fill in the blanks showing whose seed God’s son will (or will not) be descended from (according to O.T. prophecy).

Use the references below to fill in the blanks showing the significance of each prophecy.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Seed of:</th>
<th>Significance</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Gen 3:15</td>
<td>no male ______ (sperm)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gal 3:16-18</td>
<td>by ____________, not performance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gen 17:19</td>
<td>establish his ___________</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1Chr 17:10-14</td>
<td>no human ___________</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Isa 7:14</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

STUDY Through the Bible

Jesus: conception (13.6)
Bible Reading: Luke 1

Meditation verse: Isa 7:14

Write the meditation verse on the back of the 3X5 card.
Tuesday: Announcement: Mary

The birth of Jesus begins with the announcement to a virgin in Nazareth of Galilee.

Setting

Fill in the blanks to show the setting for this momentous occasion (Luke 1:26-27):

Time: __22__ month    Messenger: ____________23    Place: ____________,24    Person: ____________25

angel

Galilee

Status

Fill in the blanks to show the status for Mary (Luke 1:27):

Physical: ____________26    Marital: ____________,27    to Joseph    Social: House of ____________28

Salutation: Gabriel

• Vs 28: What was her standing with God? ____________________________29    What was the result of her standing with God? _________________________30    What was her standing among women? ____________________________31

• Vs 30: What did the angel say to comfort her? ____________________________32    What was the basis for her comfort? ____________________________33

• Vs 31: What was the surprising news? ________________________________34

What was the son supposed to be named? ____________35

• Vs 32-33: What were his special qualities? ________, (quality of character) ________, ________, (family) ________, (position) ________, (duration of his reign) ________, (range of his kingdom) ________

Surprise: Mary

• Vs 29: What was her emotional response? _________________39    mental response? _________________

_____________

• Vs 34: Why did she doubt this was possible? ____________________________41    Was she doubting God’s ability? What word from vs. 27 proves this to be true? ________42

Solution: Gabriel

• Vs 35: What was the solution? ____________________________43    (person) and the ____________________________43    (power) Why was it/he called a “thing”?44

STUDY Through the Bible    Jesus: conception (13.6)
**Substantiation:** Elisabeth

- **Vs 36:** What was the *proof* that this would happen? ______________ 45
- **Vs 37:** Who was the only one *qualified* to accomplish this? ______ 46

**Submission:** Mary

- **Vs 38:** What words show Mary’s *submission*? ___________________________ 47
  What words show Mary’s *faith*? ___________________________ 48


**Bible Reading:** Matt 1

**Meditation Verse:** Luke 1:37

📝 Write the *meditation verse* on the back of a 3 X 5 card.

_CART_ Review the previous *meditation verses*. 
Wednesday: Genealogy: physical (Mary)

The conception of Jesus involved both a natural process (through his human mother) and a supernatural process (through his heavenly Father—God). The human genealogy through Mary is recorded in Luke 3:23b-38.

Fill in the table to show the contrast between Jesus’ human and heavenly genealogy.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Natural: human mother</th>
<th>Supernatural: heavenly father</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Luke 1:30-31</td>
<td>son (of</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Title:</td>
<td>Son of man</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Mary’s genealogy is linked to David (vs. 31) and Abraham (vs. 34), just like Joseph’s in Matt 1. However, Mary’s genealogy went through David’s son Nathan (instead of Solomon) The need for this difference is shown in Jer 22:28-30. One of David’s descendants (vs. 28 or Jeconiah) is cursed for his sin against God. Vs. 30 says he will be ________ and will not ________, nor any of his ________. More specifically, none of his seed (children) shall sit upon the ________, nor _______ in Judah. This explains why Jesus could be physically related to Mary but not to Joseph. If Joseph was his physical father he would be excluded from reigning over Israel. But since Joseph was his “adoptive” father Jesus was legally qualified to be king.

There are many false beliefs about Mary. So, lest you think she was something supernatural (as some religions claim) God records a few more details about her in the Bible.

Put an ‘X’ in the boxes below for each statement that is false.

- [ ] Mary had no other children after Jesus (Matt 13:55-56)
- [ ] Mary ‘outranked’ other people (Matt 12:46-50)
- [ ] Mary ‘outranked’ Jesus (John 2:4)
- [ ] Mary intercedes in prayer for sinners (Rom 8:34)


Meditation Verse: Luke 1:31

Write the meditation verse on the back of a 3 X 5 card.

Review the previous meditation verses.
Thursday: Genealogy: legal (Joseph)

Yesterday, you studied the genealogy of Jesus through Mary—his earthly mother. Today, you will study the genealogy of Jesus through Joseph—his adoptive father—as recorded in Matt 1:1-17.

Generation: children

The genealogy of Matthew begins in an unusual way (vs. 1). What is different about how it is worded than others (Gen 5:1, 6:9, 10:1, 11:10, 11:27, 25:12, 19, 36:1, 37:2)61 Why is one generation important?62

Men: heredity

Next, Matthew links Jesus to two men: _____________, _______________ (vs 1).63 Why are they important? God links Jesus to them in order to show that his work transcends heredity (not all their seed were blessed—only those who followed God).

Fill in the table below to show the comparison between Abraham and David.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>1. Matt 3:9</th>
<th>Abraham</th>
<th>David</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2. Luke 20:41-44</td>
<td>1. 64 family</td>
<td>2. 65 kingdom</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Gen 17:23-26</td>
<td>3. 66 righteous</td>
<td>4. 67 rule</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. 1Sam 16:13</td>
<td>spiritual</td>
<td>political</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Periods: history

In vs. 2-16 Matthew distinguishes three periods of history for Israel. Each of them seems to have a different focus, showing that God’s work transcends time and circumstances.

Fill in the blanks below to show the different periods.

- Vs 2-6a: __________ - __________ 68 (Patriarchal)
- Vs 6b-11: __________ - __________ 69 (national)
- Vs 12-16: __________ - __________ 70 (spiritual)

Women: grace

Matthew’s genealogy is also different in one other interesting aspect—it contains four women in the line of Jesus (Jewish genealogies rarely if ever list women). An even more interesting feature of these women is that each of them was “stained” in some way. By including them in the genealogy of Jesus God shows that his mercy and compassion transcends man’s sin.

Fill in the first column below with the names of the four women.

Fill in the second column with the sin they were guilty of: adultery, harlot, incest

Jesus: conception (13.6)
### Bible Reading: Luke 3

### Meditation Verse: ????

- Write the *meditation verse* on the back of a 3 X 5 card.
- Review the previous *meditation verses*.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Vs.</th>
<th>Woman</th>
<th>Sin</th>
<th>Significance</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>_______</td>
<td>Gen 38 _________</td>
<td>ravages of sin</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>_______</td>
<td>Josh 2:1 _______</td>
<td>relation of faith</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>_______</td>
<td>Gen 19:30-38 _________—origin</td>
<td>redemption</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>_______</td>
<td>2Sam 11:1-4 _________</td>
<td>remembrance of sin</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Friday: Announcement: Joseph

Tuesday you studied the announcement of Jesus’ birth to Mary—his earthly mother. Today, you will study the announcement to Joseph—his adoptive father—in Matt 1.

- **Vs 18:** What was Mary’s **relationship** to Joseph? ______________ What does that mean? __________

- **Vs 19:** What was Joseph’s **relationship** to Mary? ______________ (apparently, they were considered husband and wife during the espousal period) What was his **standing** with God? ________ What does being ‘just’ mean in the Bible? ______ What did he want to do (_____________)? and **why** (_____________)? What was the proper action according to the **law of Moses** (Deut 22: 23-24)? ______

- **Vs 20-21:** Who **appeared** to Joseph? the ________ Why does it say ‘the’ and not ‘an’ angel? **How** did the angel appear to Joseph? __________ **What title** did the angel use for Joseph? __________ Why? What does the angel call **Mary**? ________ **What** does ‘take unto thee’ mean? ______ **What shocking information** does the angel reaffirm? __________, (vs 20) ______ __________ (vs 21) **What commandment** is Joseph given? ________ Why does his name **signify**? ________

- **Vs 22-23:** **Why** did all this happen? __________ **What name** does the prophet use instead of JESUS? __________ Why the difference? **What does the name mean?** ________ **Where is this prophecy from?** ________

- **Vs 24-25:** **When** did Joseph have the dream? ________ Did he **obey**? ______ **What does it mean he ‘knew her not’?** ________

Most people assume that Mary became pregnant several months before she was married to Joseph (thus bringing shame and reproach on her for getting pregnant out of wedlock) but that is not necessarily the case. In fact, nothing in the Bible indicates others suspected what had happened. A careful analysis of the events and their possible timing shows it’s quite possible Mary became pregnant almost immediately before getting married to Joseph.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Dec 25?</th>
<th>Dec 26?</th>
<th>Dec 27?</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Conceived: announcement to Mary</td>
<td>Confirmed: announcement to Joseph</td>
<td>Consecrated: united in marriage</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

One puzzling thing about this scenario is why Mary would leave Joseph immediately after getting married to go visit Elisabeth for three months (not likely in today’s culture). But perhaps this
is a very practical solution to a very real problem—their need to remain chaste (no sex) until Jesus was born (Matt 1:25).

Scripture also seems to confirm the above scenario in its silence as to Jesus’ origin:

• Was Jesus ever accused of being illegitimate?\(^{109}\)
• Was Jesus rejected by the Jewish leaders because he was illegitimate?\(^ {110}\)

\[IF\] Jesus was *conceived* on Dec. 25 (NOT born),\(^ {111}\) when was John the Baptist born?\(^ {112}\)

Write June 25 under *Time* for ‘John the Baptist: conceived’ on the *Harmony of the Gospels* outline.


**Meditation Verse:** Matt 1:24-25

Write the meditation verse on the back of a 3 X 5 card.

Review the previous meditation verses.
Sunday: Song of Mary

The next thing Mary did was to go see the miracle God had done in Elisabeth’s life (which you studied last week—Luke 1:39-40). This was exactly what she needed to confirm God’s promise to her. She was also encouraged by the words of Elisabeth concerning her condition (vs. 42-45). At that point Mary responds with a “song” of her own (vs. 46-55).

Fill in the table below to show the two aspects of Mary’s song: soul and spirit.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Vs. 46 magnify the</th>
<th>Vs. 47 rejoiced in</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>soul</td>
<td>emotional</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Write the following things in the table below to show what needs to be magnified: atoms, birds, insects, stars, text, watch.

Mary’s song seems to focus on a contrast that often appears in the Bible—lowliness versus exaltation.

• What phrase shows her humility? ____________________________

• What phrase shows God’s blessing? ____________________________

Use the following verses to fill in the blanks below showing the contrast between humility and pride: Luke 9:48, 22:26 (2X), Matt 5:11-12, 19:30, 20:27, 1Pet 5:6

Mary humbled herself so God exalted her. Unfortunately, fallen man usually has it backwards from Mary.

Put a checkmark (✓) in the box if it shows a humble attitude or an ‘X’ if it does not.
Vs. 50: And his mercy is on them that fear him from generation to generation.

Vs. 51: He hath shewed strength with his arm; he hath scattered the proud in the imagination of their hearts.

Vs. 52a: He hath put down the mighty from their seats, ... 

Vs. 52b: ... and exalted them of low degree.

Vs. 53a: He hath filled the hungry with good things; ...

Vs. 53b: ... and the rich he hath sent empty away.

Vs. 54-55: He hath holpen his servant Israel, in remembrance of his mercy; 55 As he spake to our fathers, to Abraham, and to his seed for ever.

Write Song of Mary for Matt 1:46-55 on the Harmony of the Gospels outline.

Conclusion

A vital fact you need to understand is the contrast between two titles used for Jesus: Son of man and Son of God. Each had specific significance for Jesus and his ministry.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Son of man: human nature</th>
<th>Son of God: divine nature</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>133 Prophet</td>
<td>John 1:1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>135 Priest</td>
<td>John 1:29</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>John 6:35</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>John 8:12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>139 King</td>
<td>Rev 5:5</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Son of man: human nature

Jesus’ human genealogy (through Mary) made him fully human (though without sin since he had no human father). The title, Son of Man (related to his human nature), is evident in the three roles he fulfilled: prophet, priest, king.

Write the following verses in the correct blank above for the role it describes and then use them to answer the questions: Deut 18:15-19, 2Sam 7:12-18, Heb 2:14-18.

- **Prophet:** How do you know he was human? ____________________________ 141
  - Who pictured the Prophet to come? ______ 142
  - Why did Israel want a Prophet to speak to them (instead of God)? ____________________________ 143
  - How would God use the Prophet? ____________________________ 144
• **Priest:** What did he need to *partake of*? ____________________________

What did he *accomplish*? ____________________________

How did he do it? ____________

How do you know he was *human*? ____________________________

How was he *made*? ____________________________

Why was that *important*? ____________________________

What did that make *possible*? ____________________________

What did his humanity *cause*? ____________________________

Why was that *good*? ____________________________

• **King:** Whose *seed* will he be? ____________

What will God *do* for him? ____________________________

What will be God’s *relationship* to him? ____________________________

---

**Son of God:** divine nature

Jesus’ “heavenly” genealogy (through God) made him fully God (but he was still fully human because of his physical birth through Mary). Since there was no human father, it is quite appropriate to call Jesus the *Son of God*, conceived by and filled with the power of the Holy Ghost.

edere Use the verses in the table above to fill in the blanks showing how Jesus *fulfilled* his three roles as *Son of man*.

The dual human/divine nature of Jesus is shown in many other scriptures as well.

edere Use the verses in the table below to show Jesus as the *Son of man* and the *Son of God*.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Vs.</th>
<th>Father</th>
<th>Son</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>John 1:14</td>
<td></td>
<td>made</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>the only</td>
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<td>Phil 2:5-8</td>
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<td>in the</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>with God</td>
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<td>the form of a</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>made in the</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>in</td>
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<tr>
<td>1Tim 3:16</td>
<td></td>
<td>manifest in the</td>
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<tr>
<td>Heb 1:1-14</td>
<td></td>
<td>his</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>of his glory</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>of his person</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>the Majesty on high</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**STUDY Through the Bible**

*Jesus: conception (13.6) 15*
| I have ________ | 170 | thee |
| Father | 171 |
| God | the | 172 |
| | the | 173 |
| O | 174 |
| Heb 2:14-18 | God, even thy God | 175 |
| Partaker of | 176 |
| took on him the | 177 |
| made like unto his | 178 |
| God | merciful and faithful | 179 |
Key

1 marriage
2 birthday
3 Christmas
4 vacation
5 birth
6 tests
7 fillings
8 surgery
9 shot
10 death
11 foundation of the world
12 woman
13 seed
14 Abraham
15 promise
16 Isaac
17 everlasting covenant
18 David
19 kingdom
20 virgin
21 father
22 6th month
23 Gabriel
24 Nazareth
25 Mary
26 virgin
27 espoused
28 David
29 highly favoured
30 the Lord is with thee
31 blessed
32 fear not
33 thou hast found favour with God
34 thou shalt bring forth a son
35 JESUS
36 great, Son of the Highest: throne of his father David
37 for ever
38 no end
39 troubled
40 cast in her mind (considered)
41 I know not a man
42 virgin
43 The Holy Ghost shall come upon thee, power of the Highest shall overshadow thee
44 it/he was unlike any “thing” before or after—the Son of God
45 Elisabeth hath conceived a son in her old age
46 God
47 handmaid of the Lord
48 according to thy word
49 Mary
50 God
51 Nathan
52 Solomon
53 son
Emmanuel
Coniah
childless
prosper
seed
throne of David
rule
generation—singular
there are no grandchildren in God’s family, only children
David, Abraham
Father
Lord
circumcised
anointed
Abraham-David
David-captivity
Captivity-Christ
Tamar
harlot
Rahab
harlot
Ruth
incest
Bathsheba (the wife of Urias)
adultery
espoused
engaged—but with more responsibility probably (see vs 19)
husband
just
enough—not too much, not too little?
put her away privily/privately
not willing to make her a public example
stoned/die
angel
“the” same angel that appeared to Zacharias and Mary—Gabriel
dream
son of David
it was Joseph’s right to the throne of Israel
Joseph’s wife
go from espoused to fully married
that which is conceived in her is of the Holy Ghost
she shall bring forth a son
call his name JESUS
he shall save his people from their sins
fulfilled prophecy
Emmanuel
Mary and Joseph will call him Jesus; they (Israel?) shall call him Emmanuel
God with us
Isa 7:14
sleep
yes
no
circumcised
enough—not too much, not too little?
put her away privily/privately
not willing to make her a public example
stoned/die
angel
“the” same angel that appeared to Zacharias and Mary—Gabriel
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he shall save his people from their sins
fulfilled prophecy
Emmanuel
Mary and Joseph will call him Jesus; they (Israel?) shall call him Emmanuel
God with us
Isa 7:14
sleep
yes
no
speculation. Jesus almost certainly wasn’t born on Dec 25, so whose birthday is it? (the antichrist?) What better time for the antichrist to be born than on the same day Jesus was conceived?
The night before their scheduled wedding?
The actual wedding day
no
no
most Bible students believe that Jesus was NOT born on Dec. 25: 1. The shepherds wouldn’t have been in the fields that late. 2. The Bible gives no definite indication when it happened. So who WAS born on that day? Perhaps the antichrist.

June 25

The Bible says nothing about a date of birth for Jesus. Most students believe that December 25 was chosen as his birthday in the late Roman Empire because of the existing Roman holiday of Saturnalia, which was celebrated on the same day. The date was later adopted by the Roman Catholic Church as the official birthday of Jesus. This tradition has been retained by many other Christian denominations as well.

The shepherds didn’t see Jesus at the time of his birth because they were not in the stable where he was born. They only knew that a new baby had been born in Bethlehem, and they went to see him. The Bible doesn’t mention a specific date for the birth of Jesus, but it does say that he was born in Bethlehem, where King David was born.

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brightness
express image
Son
begotten
Son
firstbegotten
Son
God
Lord
flesh and blood
seed of Abraham
brethren
high priest