

**Look Back:** How did you pray to God who is “with you” in a mess you were facing?

### Look Up:

Read [Luke 2:1-4](#)

1. From these verses, who appeared to be in control and what appeared to be their goal? What would motivate leaders to make this type of decree?
2. What did this demand mean for Joseph and how did he respond? What does this say about Joseph and what motivated him?
3. How do you typically respond when you are asked to comply with a difficult and or unreasonable request? How has trusting God influenced the way you have responded before?

Read [Luke 2:4-7](#) and [Micah 5:2](#)

4. Describe the circumstances surrounding the birth of Jesus in your own words. How much support did Mary and Joseph receive and why? How did they feel?
5. Based on the prophecy of Micah 5:2, who was really in control of the mess Mary and Joseph faced and what was the real purpose in their travelling to Bethlehem?

Read [Psalm 20:1-5](#)

6. What does Psalm 20:1 say we should expect in our lives? What does this verse say we should do in response?
7. What do these verses say God is capable of doing? What part does he play in the middle of your messes?

### Overall (Discovery Bible Study)

- What do these scriptures say about God?
- What do they say about people?
- How will I apply this to my life?

**Look Ahead:** Believe & call out to God for help in the middle of your mess. Ask Him for help and trust Him to deliver in His way & time?

### Notes

*In life, things are often disrupted by world circumstances. We often do not have control of what happens to us and our lives feel out of control. However, our mess is never out of God's reach. When we are pushed around by life, we are not outside of God's plan. What feels like chaos is actually God's preparation. Is there room for Jesus in the middle of your mess? Jesus entered a place no one wanted so He could reach the parts of your life you don't know what to do with.*