

# PENINSULA CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP

## The Christmas Story

- I. Setting
  - A The land was occupied by Romans
    - 1 The Jews were able to maintain their identity, but were not free
    - 2 They wanted rescue and the Messiah was to bring that about
  - B An unplanned pregnancy (Luke 1:26-38)
    - 1 An angel (messenger) is sent by the God of the Jews
    - 2 God knew that Mary would be willing and wanting to carry Jesus (Mary's Magnificat Luke 1:46-55)
    - 3 Joseph was a good guy, but this... 3 options
      - a Someone took advantage of her...but why not just say that
      - b She lost self-control for a moment
      - c She's telling the truth
    - 4 Joseph gets his own angelic message (Matt 1:18-24)
  - C An unexpected journey (Like 2:1-5) 80 miles 2-3 mph 25-40 hours.
- II. The Main Event
  - A Jesus is born (Luke 2:6-7)
    - 1 There wasn't room in the inn. Outcast
    - 2 He's placed in a feeding trough. Lowly
  - B Shepherds are alerted (Luke 2:8-20)
    - 1 Angles can be a wonderful, but fearful sight
    - 2 Jesus is for the everyman
    - 3 He brings peace and goodwill
    - 4 All must know
  - C Wise men seek Him (Matt 2:1-12)
    - 1 The stars tell of Jesus' birth
    - 2 He deserves worship
- III. What does this mean for us?
  - A Jesus' own people weren't looking for Him
    - 1 We want to be our own saviors
      - a He lets us do that
      - b He offers a way of love that the shepherds and the kings can follow
    - 2 Are you looking to see what Jesus is doing and the gifts He is giving?
  - B God enters the human experience
    - 1 He is there with us and He understands what we are going through
      - a He experienced selfish rulers, desperate men, brutality, oppression
      - b He was hungry, tired, sad
    - 2 He shows us a better way
      - a Compassionate, hopeful, content
      - b Just, strong, honorable