

Getting Started

1. What is your favorite part of Advent?
2. Does the birth of Jesus leave you in awe or does it seem commonplace?
3. Do you wait expectantly for Jesus' return?
4. What insight, principle, or observation from this weekend's sermon did you find to be most helpful, eye-opening, or troubling? Explain.

Digging Deeper

5. Heidelberg Catechism Q&A 35

Q. What does it mean that he "was conceived by the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary"?

A. That the eternal Son of God, who is and remains true and eternal God,¹ took to himself, through the working of the Holy Spirit,² from the flesh and blood of the virgin Mary,³ a truly human nature so that he might also become David's true descendant,⁴ like his brothers and sisters in every way⁵ except for sin.⁶

¹ John 1:1; 10:30-36; Acts 13:33 (Ps. 2:7); Col. 1:15-17; 1 John 5:20 ² Luke 1:35 ³ Matt. 1:18-23; John 1:14; Gal. 4:4; Heb. 2:14 ⁴ 2 Sam. 7:12-16; Ps. 132:11; Matt. 1:1; Rom. 1:3 ⁵ Phil. 2:7; Heb. 2:17 ⁶ Heb. 4:15; 7:26-27

Do you consider the birth of Jesus a miracle? Are you in awe of this gift?

6. Compare Matthew 1:18-25 with Luke 1:26-38; 2:1-7. Do these two accounts have the same focus or a different focus?
7. Why Isaiah 7:14 quoted in Matthew 1:23?
8. Read Matthew 1:1-17. Why is the genealogy of Jesus important?

Application

9. The birth of our Savior is the greatest miracle ever. Unfortunately, it does not always get the awe it should. God has worked a great miracle and his Son has come and will come again. Stand in awe of our Savior and praise God for this amazing gift.

Bible Reading Questions

November 28 – Acts 18-19 – A lot of teaching and correcting takes place in the early Church. How do they handle it?

November 29 – 1 Corinthians 1-4 – Why do people join a church or stay committed based on a pastor/teacher? Does that help or hurt a church?

November 30 – 1 Corinthians 5-8 – How we respond to fellow believers and how we respond to nonbelievers are different. Why would we treat believers differently?

December 1 – 1 Corinthians 9-11 – Before we celebrate the Lord's Supper we offer a prayer of confession. Why is that important?

December 2 – 1 Corinthians 12-14 – Why are there different gifts in the Church? Why are they given in the first place?

December 3 – 1 Corinthians 15-16 – What happens to our bodies after death?

December 4 – 2 Corinthians 1-4 – What is the freedom Paul speaks of in chapter 3, and how are we being transformed?

Ross Community Reformed Church

Pastor Shawn Gerbers · November 27, 2016

Meaning of Christmas

“The Greatest Miracle Ever”

All this took place to fulfill what the Lord had spoken by the prophet:
"Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son,
and they shall call his name Immanuel"(which means, God with us).
Matthew 1:22, 23

- **The greatest _____ ever is that God _____ as a _____.**

- **God _____ the fullness of _____ so that we can as _____.**

Topics: Incarnation, awe, miracle