**Luke 2**

**WIDELY KNOWN**

The Story of Angels and Shepherds

**Luke 2:1–18 (NKJV)** And it came to pass in those days that a decree went out from Caesar Augustus that all the world should be registered. **2** This census first took place while Quirinius was governing Syria. **3** So all went to be registered, everyone to his own city. **4** Joseph also went up from Galilee, out of the city of Nazareth, into Judea, to the city of David, which is called Bethlehem, because he was of the house and lineage of David, **5** to be registered with Mary, his betrothed wife, who was with child. **6** So it was, that while they were there, the days were completed for her to be delivered. **7** And she brought forth her firstborn Son, and wrapped Him in swaddling cloths, and laid Him in a manger, because there was no room for them in the inn. **8** Now there were in the same country shepherds living out in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. **9** And behold, an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were greatly afraid. **10** Then the angel said to them, “Do not be afraid, for behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy which will be to all people. **11** For there is born to you this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord. **12** And this will be the sign to you: You will find a Babe wrapped in swaddling cloths, lying in a manger.” **13** And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God and saying: **14** “Glory to God in the highest, And on earth peace, goodwill toward men!” **15** So it was, when the angels had gone away from them into heaven, that the shepherds said to one another, “Let us now go to Bethlehem and see this thing that has come to pass, which the Lord has made known to us.” **16** And they came with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the Babe lying in a manger. **17** Now when they had seen Him, they made widely known the saying which was told them concerning this Child. **18** And all those who heard it marveled at those things which were told them by the shepherds.

**WHAT DOES A SHEPHERD LOOK LIKE?**

A person holding a baby

Description automatically generated with medium confidence

**Matthew 1:18–25 (CEV)** This is how Jesus Christ was born. A young woman named Mary was engaged to Joseph from King David’s family. But before they were married, she learned that she was going to have a baby by God’s Holy Spirit. **19** Joseph was a good man and did not want to embarrass Mary in front of everyone. So he decided to quietly call off the wedding. **20** While Joseph was thinking about this, an angel from the Lord came to him in a dream. The angel said, “Joseph, the baby that Mary will have is from the Holy Spirit. Go ahead and marry her. **21** Then after her baby is born, name him Jesus, because he will save his people from their sins.” **22** So the Lord’s promise came true, just as the prophet had said, **23** “A virgin will have a baby boy, and he will be called Immanuel,” which means “God is with us.” **24** After Joseph woke up, he and Mary were soon married, just as the Lord’s angel had told him to do. **25** But they did not sleep together before her baby was born. Then Joseph named him Jesus.