

## Series: Christmas Stories

### Part 1: Hope

Sunday Nov. 29, 2015

1. Video: *Kids Tell the Christmas Story*

[www.youtube.com/watch?v=fIFDLWkbN8&feature=em-share\\_video\\_user](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fIFDLWkbN8&feature=em-share_video_user)

2. Video: *Christmas in 50 Words*

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=f8V-SAawbg>

3. *In those days Caesar Augustus issued a decree that a census should be taken of the entire Roman world* (Lk. 2:1).

4. *(This was the first census that took place while Quirinius was governor of Syria). And everyone went to his own town to register* (Lk. 2:2-3).

5. *So Joseph also went up from the town of Nazareth in Galilee in Judea, to Bethlehem, the town of David, because he belonged to the house and line of David* (Lk. 2:4).

6. *But you, Bethlehem Ephrathah, though you are small among the clans of Judah, out of you will come for me one who will be ruler over Israel, whose origins are from of old, from ancient times* (Mic. 5:2).

7. *He went there to register with Mary... who was pledged to be married to him and was expecting a child* (2:5).  
*Kiddushin + Huppa.*

8. Christmas isn't just about the Savior's infancy – it's primarily about his Deity.

9. *While they were there, the time came for the baby to be born, and she gave birth to her firstborn, a son. She wrapped him in cloths and placed him in a manger, because there was no room for them in the inn* (Lk. 2:6-7).

10. What are we hoping for this Christmas?



## Study Notes

### DISCUSSION

1. What do you hope for this Christmas?

2. Share a story of hope: something you wanted to happen or wanted to be true and came true or it happened. What was your part in it? What do you think was God's part in it?

### INTO THE BIBLE

3. Read Lk. 1:26-38

Why do you think Mary was troubled (v. 29)?

*Nothing is impossible with God* (v. 37). What is the evidence of this in this passage? What evidence is there of this in your life?

What do you make of Mary's answer to the angel (v. 38)? What do you imagine were Mary's thoughts and feelings before she responded?

### APPLICATION

4. Take specific steps towards what you hope for this Christmas. Think them out-loud with someone. Ask for feedback. Then take action!

5. Give someone hope this week. Try to figure out what someone else might want to happen or want to be true and prayerfully determine whether or not you can give them hope – by word or deed.