

 Break the ice

Write down what God is saying to you in today's message:

TOPIC: Seeing Jesus the greatest man to ever walk the earth

 Let's hear your story

1. Tell of a time when you had to explain to a friend or family member what difference Jesus made in history?
2. Whose birthday do we celebrate on Christmas day? (**The Lord Jesus Christ**).
3. How does the coming of Jesus Christ divide human history? (**At His birth BC, before Christ, and AD, Anno Domini, the year of our Lord**).
4. True or false, Jesus Christ was adopted by Joseph? (**True, see Matthew 1:18 - 25**).

 Let's go deeper

5. How do we know Jesus loved and welcomed little children? (**He received, prayed and blessed them – see Matthew 19:13 – 15**).
6. Give two examples of how Jesus restored dignity and value to two women? (**Sinful woman in John 8; the Samaritan woman in John 4**).
7. How did Jesus value reading and educating oneself to read? (**See Luke 2:41 – 52; Jesus had understanding, and grew in wisdom...**).
8. How is Christmas good news? (**Luke 2:10 – 11; the angel said to them, I bring you good news that will cause great joy for all people. Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you, He is the Messiah, the Lord**).

 Let's apply this

9. What difference has Jesus Christ made in your personal history?

Today as we remember, honour and celebrate the birth of our Lord Jesus Christ, let us remind ourselves of the difference He made not only in world history, but in our own personal lives.

- **How did Jesus reveal Himself to you as Saviour?**
- **How did Jesus change your life?**

As we celebrate Christmas, let us remember it is all about Jesus.

SUMMARY:

- **Was difference has Jesus made in history?**

Read: Luke 2:1 – 8.

That is the simple account of the birth of the Lord Jesus Christ whose birth we celebrate every year at Christmas. Jesus' life is exceedingly simple. He is born to a teenage virgin woman in a humble estate to a working-class family. He spent the first, roughly 30 years of His life, as a carpenter in relative obscurity, with His dad. He never travelled more than a few hundred miles from His home. Never wrote a book. Never ran for a political office. Did not make much money, was homeless, impoverished, He was not a well-known man in His day, until He began His ministry, at about the age of 30. His ministry lasted roughly, 3 years.

Those three years He spent performing miracles, feeding the poor, caring for the sick and demonstrating He was in fact God who had come into human history. Both through His actions which were without sin, His words which were filled with power, love and life transforming grace, as well as his own death, burial and resurrection, which we celebrate at Resurrection Sunday. That is the simple life, of Jesus Christ. Human history divides at His coming, at His birth into BC which is Before Christ and AD, Anno Domini, The Year of Our Lord.

Children: In the ancient world children were the property of their father with no legal rights. In the ancient world child sacrifice and abandonment were common. Jesus was a child and loved children. Jesus told us to be like children. Christians adopted children like Jesus was adopted.

Woman: In the ancient world a woman was the property of her husband and could not divorce him, although he could divorce her. Infanticide and abandonment of children was common in the ancient world. Jesus befriended women like Mary and Martha, taught women in His ministry, forgave women like the woman caught in adultery, dignified women, outcasts like the Samaritan woman at the well, served women as God's image bearers and honoured His own mother from the cross. Women were the first to find Jesus' empty tomb even though they could not testify in court legally. The early church was largely female because it liberated women. The New Testament has a lot more demands on husbands than other ancient moral codes or religious teachings.

Education: Didymus the Blind invented Braille in the 4th century. AD 797 - priests sent to open schools and parents paid whatever they could. Printing press was invented by Christian Johann Gutenberg (1398-1468). The Bible was the first book every published. Christians have led in language formation for Bible translations. Literacy and education have spread since the Reformation so that people can read the Bible. In the 1500s, John Calvin opened one of the first free schools and this became a university and beginning of higher education. Oxford, Cambridge, Yale, Harvard, Princeton and more were all started by Christians to honour Christ.