

 Break the ice

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

TOPIC: Christmas service

 Let's hear your story

1. Tell of a time when you had to explain to a friend or family member the importance of Jesus Christ's birth?
2. What was Jesus Christ doing before He entered human history? (**Jesus existed before His birth on earth, He lived in eternity as God – see Isaiah 6.**).
3. Does John 12:41 confirm Isaiah's revelation in Isaiah 6? (**Yes, John said that Isaiah said these things when he saw the Lord's glory and spoke of Him.**).
4. What is the sign mentioned in Isaiah 7:14? (**Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a Son, and shall call His name Immanuel.**).

 Let's go deeper

5. Did Mary worship Jesus according to Luke 1:46 – 47? (**Yes. She said; "my soul magnifies the Lord, my spirit rejoices in God, my Saviour."**).
6. Did Elizabeth worship Jesus in Luke 1:43? (**Yes. She said; "why is this granted to me that the mother of my Lord should come to me?"**).
7. Did angels worship Jesus in Luke 2:11? (**Yes. They said; "for to you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, who is Christ the Lord."**).
8. Did the shepherds worship Jesus in Luke 2:20? (**Yes. They returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen...**).

 Let's apply this

- 9. Matthew 2:11b;** ...And when they had opened their treasures, they presented gifts to Him: gold, frankincense, and myrrh.
- Gold**, was symbolized with king ship, ruling and reigning.
Frankincense; the priest would light and ignite frankincense in the temple as part of worship. **Myrrh**; was used to prepare a dead body for burial.
- How does Jesus as King, impact your short and long-term decisions?
 - How does Jesus as High Priest impact your relationships?
 - How does Jesus' death, burial and resurrection influence your view on eternal life?

SUMMARY:

The English word "Christmas" is a shortened form of "Christ's Mass." Christ is from Greek Khrīstos (Χριστός), meaning "Anointed One"; and mass is from Latin missa, the celebration of the Eucharist. An old word that the church would use for worship services devoted to Jesus Christ. Christmas is in its own title, the worship of Christ.

Our word for worship comes from an older English word called worth ship. And that is that honour, praise, glory, adoration, and appreciation would go to the person who is worthy. And we worship Jesus Christ because He alone is worthy of worship.

What was Jesus Christ doing before that first Christmas when He entered human history? Jesus existed before His birth on the earth, He lived in eternity as God. See **Isaiah 6:1 – 3** and **John 12:41**.

Isaiah 7:14, tells us that Jesus Christ would enter human history through the womb of a young unmarried woman. Jesus was worshiped in heaven and then He came to the earth, and He came to the earth to be worshiped as King.

The worship of Jesus Christ began at His conception:

Jesus was worshiped on the earth by His relative, named Zachariah; see **Luke 1:11 – 17**. Zechariah receives this revelation while worshiping God in the temple.

Jesus was worshiped by His mother Mary; see **Luke 1:46 – 47**; Mary says, "my soul magnifies the Lord, my spirit rejoices in God, my Saviour." What she realizes is that her son will be her Saviour, and that her baby is her God. Mary stops, and worships God when she hears that she is going to give birth to the Son of God.

In **Luke 1:40 – 45**; we read that Elizabeth is the first person to worship Jesus Christ as Lord, and she calls Jesus Christ her Lord in v.43.

In **Luke 2:8 – 14**; Angels come down from heaven and they worship Jesus on earth. In **Luke 2:15 – 16; 20**; The shepherds glorify, praise and worship Jesus.

In **Matthew 2:1 – 11**; wise men came to Jesus' house after His birth to worship Him and offer gifts to Him. These wise men or magi, magi is short for magician, are Babylonians, they are not Hebrews. They would have heard about Jesus 600 years prior through the prophet Daniel, as we read in **Daniel 6:25 – 27**.

The wisemen brought Jesus three gifts: Gold; Frankincense and Myrrh

Gold; gold was symbolized with king ship, ruling and reigning.
Frankincense; the priest would light and ignite frankincense in the temple as part of worship. **Myrrh**; was used to prepare a dead body for burial.
 Jesus is our King, High priest, and the purpose for His coming was to die for us.