



Discussion Guide

December 16, 2018

Advent Part 3: The Wonder of the First Christmas Sermon by Pastor Zach Prosser

-Read Luke 2:1-15

-Today, more than 2,000 years since the human birth of Jesus Christ, Christmas has become something that looks very different from what it did that night so many years ago. We spend much of our time, money, and focus on the decorations, the presents, the parties, and the food--on beautiful, enjoyable, comfortable things. And that's not always a bad thing in itself. But sometimes the material grandeur of the holiday draws us away from the true miracle we are celebrating--that Jesus came to earth and was born in a dirty stable among livestock and hay.

Read Luke's telling of the birth of Jesus. Pay attention to the details--the things that might easily be skipped over, or maybe the things you've simply grown used to after hearing the story so many years. What stands out to you? What particular detail or event in the story speaks to you about the nature of God?

-Luke 2: 19 says that Jesus's mother "treasured up all these things and pondered them in her heart." In the midst of a most exciting time, when the shepherds immediately ran off to tell others what they had seen, Mary took time to be still and cherish what had happened.

What can we learn from Mary's attitude in response to the birth of Jesus? How might her example help us return to a sense of wonder during the busy, exciting, and demanding Christmas season?



688 Dan Street, Akron, OH 44310

www.CCAkron.org

330-762-7458

Upcoming Events to Promote at Your Group

Midweek Refresh | Wednesdays
7pm

The Hope Center | Thursdays
10am-4pm

Night of Hope | December 19
7pm

Key Components of a Healthy Care Group

Worship
Prayer
Body Life Ministry
Bible
Discussion

Remember to DELEGATE responsibilities to others!

***Remember your Care Group benevolence offering!**
****After your Care Group, remember to complete your online Care Group Report or email your Section Pastor.**