

Sermon Study Guide –

Luke 2:1-7

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Week of December 11, 2022

Title: **“Making Room”**

Sermon Idea: God brings about His eternal purpose in a surprisingly earthy way.

Key Points:

- Contrast #1: Caesar Augustus, Roman Emperor vs. Jesus Christ, Poor Infant – make room for Jesus’ kingship in your life.
- Contrast #2: Human Decrees vs. God’s Decrees – make room for seeing the hand of God in your daily circumstances.
- Contrast #3: The World Stage vs. The Private Home – make room for “Jesus” in your home/life.

What do I want people to know? I want people to know that Jesus is the only Savior and Lord of the world. I want them to know that God is at work even in the ordinary, earthy parts of life.

What do I want people to do? I want people to (1) make Jesus their King, (2) seek to see God’s hand in their ordinary circumstances, (3) open their hearts and homes to “Jesus.”

What need am I addressing? I am addressing the need for making Jesus the center of our lives.

Recommended Resources: *“The Gospel Comes with a House Key: Practicing Hospitality,”* Rosaria Butterfield; *“Don’t Waste Your Life,”* John Piper

Intro: What is your understanding of the Christmas story? Can you retell it from memory? What are the key parts to it?

Dig:

Day 1: Luke 2:1-7 describes the birth of Jesus in a very straight-forward way. List the key facts that Luke relates and explain the significance of each.

Day 2: Isaiah 7:14 prophesies about the virgin birth. Why is this a crucially important doctrine? What does this tell us about how God works?

Day 3: Micah 5:2 prophesies about the role of Bethlehem in God’s eternal purposes. How is God going to use this tiny town? What does this say about how God works?

Day 4: Matthew 25:31-46 is the Parable of the Sheep and the Goats. What is the main point of this parable? Does this mean that we’re saved by our works? What’s the connection between faith and works?

Day 5: Revelation 3:14-21 contains Jesus’ offer of knocking at the door. It is a great offer...but what is the context? What is needed in order to “open the door” and “make room” for Jesus in your life?

Apply:

- Ask yourself: Who am I impressed by? Who do I want to emulate? Why?
- Identify a frustrating circumstance in your life or the world. Pray and ask God to give you His perspective on it.
- Invite someone God puts on your heart over for a meal or an activity. Open your home!

Pray: Dear Jesus, You are my King! I worship You and thank You for being willing to come into our mess to save us. Make me more like You! Amen!
