2021 CHRISTMAS (V)

**GLORY TO GOD AND PEACE TO MEN ON EARTH**

Luke 2:1-20

Key Verse: 2:14

**Open it:**

1. If you could sleep out under the stars anywhere in the world, where would you put down your pillow?

**Explore it:**

1. Read verses 1-3. What historical facts did Luke provide that allows us to approximate the date of Christ s birth? (1-2) What did the Roman census require of everyone? (3) How did the Roman Empire rule the world?
2. Read verses 4-7. What was Joseph and Mary's marital status at the time of Jesus' birth? (5) Why was this journey to Bethlehem difficult for Mary? (5) In what ways did the census contribute to fulfilling God s plan?
3. Read verses 8-11. To whom was the announcement of Jesus' birth made? (8, 9) What was the good news of great joy the angel spoke? For whom is this great joy? (10) From what does the Savior save us? (Mt 1:21; Lk 1:69-75) Who did the angel say the newborn child was? (11; Mt. 1:21)
4. Read verse 12. What does this will be a sign to you mean? What is his kingdom like? (Compare with the kingship of the Roman Empire.) Read verses 13-14. In what way is the birth of Jesus glory to God and peace to men?
5. Read verses 15-20. What was the immediate reaction of the shepherds after the angels left? (15) After finding the Christ child, what did the shepherds do? (17-20)

**Apply it:**

1. How can you glorify and praise God with other Christians this week?