

PERSONAL REFLECTION GUIDE

12/29/24

At Southland Church, we are committed to help you KNOW Christ, LIVE like Him, and make Him KNOWN. This guide is designed to help you reflect on and apply what you learned from the sermon this weekend. Use this guide as a quiet time this week. Write your answers in a journal, with the date and main passage noted at the top of the page.

- What main point from the sermon stood out to you? What did the Holy Spirit convict you of or encourage you with?
- When you think of the Christmas season, what images come to mind? Even if they are good things, how many of those images pull attention away from Jesus' birth?
- **Read Luke 2:1-20.** Why do you think Luke gives the details of the census (v 1-3)?
- In **verse 7**, the word translated as "inn" is better translated as "guest room" and since Joseph was returning to his hometown for the census, this is likely one of Joseph's relatives who puts them in a stable. What does this add to the story?
- What does the way Jesus came into the world tell us about God's plan for salvation?
- The angels first appear to shepherds who are lowly and marginalized. What does this reveal about God?
- In what ways should God becoming man (called the "Incarnation") humble us?
- **Read Luke 2:21-40. Verse 24** reveals that Jesus was born into poverty because His parents could not afford the proper sacrifices. What conclusions can you draw from Jesus being sent into a poor family? How does God view the poor?
- Based on Joseph and Mary's example, what is more important: wealth or obedience? What lessons can a parent in poverty teach a child that will be valuable as the child grows?
- Both Anna and Simeon have to wait years for God's promise to be fulfilled. What can you learn from their example? What can help you wait patiently?
- What news does Simeon reveal about Jesus in **verses 34-35**? How might this prophecy have affected Joseph and Mary?
- Write one step of obedience the Holy Spirit is leading you towards this week. Who will you tell about this step, in order to help you?

LOOKING AHEAD TO NEXT WEEK

Read Luke 3:1-20. What do we learn about John's life and ministry that can inform our own?



Give us feedback on these guides
By scanning the QR code to the left.

PERSONAL REFLECTION GUIDE

12/29/24

At Southland Church, we are committed to help you KNOW Christ, LIVE like Him, and make Him KNOWN. This guide is designed to help you reflect on and apply what you learned from the sermon this weekend. Use this guide as a quiet time this week. Write your answers in a journal, with the date and main passage noted at the top of the page.

- What main point from the sermon stood out to you? What did the Holy Spirit convict you of or encourage you with?
- When you think of the Christmas season, what images come to mind? Even if they are good things, how many of those images pull attention away from Jesus' birth?
- **Read Luke 2:1-20.** Why do you think Luke gives the details of the census (v 1-3)?
- In **verse 7**, the word translated as "inn" is better translated as "guest room" and since Joseph was returning to his hometown for the census, this is likely one of Joseph's relatives who puts them in a stable. What does this add to the story?
- What does the way Jesus came into the world tell us about God's plan for salvation?
- The angels first appear to shepherds who are lowly and marginalized. What does this reveal about God?
- In what ways should God becoming man (called the "Incarnation") humble us?
- **Read Luke 2:21-40. Verse 24** reveals that Jesus was born into poverty because His parents could not afford the proper sacrifices. What conclusions can you draw from Jesus being sent into a poor family? How does God view the poor?
- Based on Joseph and Mary's example, what is more important: wealth or obedience? What lessons can a parent in poverty teach a child that will be valuable as the child grows?
- Both Anna and Simeon have to wait years for God's promise to be fulfilled. What can you learn from their example? What can help you wait patiently?
- What news does Simeon reveal about Jesus in **verses 34-35**? How might this prophecy have affected Joseph and Mary?
- Write one step of obedience the Holy Spirit is leading you towards this week. Who will you tell about this step, in order to help you?

LOOKING AHEAD TO NEXT WEEK

Read Luke 3:1-20. What do we learn about John's life and ministry that can inform our own?



Give us feedback on these guides
By scanning the QR code to the left.

FAMILY DISCUSSION GUIDE

Southland Church is committed to helping parents raise the next generation of disciples who KNOW Christ, LIVE like Him, and make Him KNOWN. This guide is meant to help you as a family, particularly those over 12 years old, to discuss the Sunday sermon. You can do this in an evening devotion or over lunch after service.

A few tips to get started: (1) Make this a phone-free conversation. You and your family put the phones away, except for the person who looks up the Scriptures. He/She would read the passage and then put his/her phone away. (2) Set the pace for how vulnerable to be. If you give a shallow answer, you are more likely to get a shallow answer from your kids. (3) Do not feel like you have to ask all of these questions. Just focus on having a good honest discussion.

Open with prayer, asking God to lead you to know more about Christ and live like Him.

- What stood out to you from the sermon this week? What challenged or encouraged you?
- Have you ever searched for something valuable (like keys or homework) and found it in an unexpected place? Tell a little bit about that. What did you think when you found it?
- **Read Luke 2:1-20.** Pretend this is the first time you've heard this story. What details make this story shocking or surprising?
- Jesus was born in a stable, placed in a feeding trough for animals, and the first people told about His birth were shepherds who were considered lowly and outcasts. What does all of this tell you about the kind of king Jesus is?
- God used normal people and surprising events to bring Jesus into the world. How can this change how you view God working in your life?
- After the shepherds saw the Child, they went and told everyone. Why was it important for them to share the news?
- Have you ever had news so exciting that you just had to share it? What was the news?
- Why is the news of Jesus' coming good news for the whole world, including you?
- How might you share the good news of Jesus with those around you?
- What is one thing you want to put in practice from these passages or the sermon?

Ask if there is some way you can pray for your family members, and then close in prayer.



Give us feedback on these guides
By scanning the QR code to the left.

FAMILY DISCUSSION GUIDE

Southland Church is committed to helping parents raise the next generation of disciples who KNOW Christ, LIVE like Him, and make Him KNOWN. This guide is meant to help you as a family, particularly those over 12 years old, to discuss the Sunday sermon. You can do this in an evening devotion or over lunch after service.

A few tips to get started: (1) Make this a phone-free conversation. You and your family put the phones away, except for the person who looks up the Scriptures. He/She would read the passage and then put his/her phone away. (2) Set the pace for how vulnerable to be. If you give a shallow answer, you are more likely to get a shallow answer from your kids. (3) Do not feel like you have to ask all of these questions. Just focus on having a good honest discussion.

Open with prayer, asking God to lead you to know more about Christ and live like Him.

- What stood out to you from the sermon this week? What challenged or encouraged you?
- Have you ever searched for something valuable (like keys or homework) and found it in an unexpected place? Tell a little bit about that. What did you think when you found it?
- **Read Luke 2:1-20.** Pretend this is the first time you've heard this story. What details make this story shocking or surprising?
- Jesus was born in a stable, placed in a feeding trough for animals, and the first people told about His birth were shepherds who were considered lowly and outcasts. What does all of this tell you about the kind of king Jesus is?
- God used normal people and surprising events to bring Jesus into the world. How can this change how you view God working in your life?
- After the shepherds saw the Child, they went and told everyone. Why was it important for them to share the news?
- Have you ever had news so exciting that you just had to share it? What was the news?
- Why is the news of Jesus' coming good news for the whole world, including you?
- How might you share the good news of Jesus with those around you?
- What is one thing you want to put in practice from these passages or the sermon?

Ask if there is some way you can pray for your family members, and then close in prayer.



Give us feedback on these guides
By scanning the QR code to the left.