

## **A Thrill of Hope: Devotions of Christmastime**

### **Week 2: Fulfillment of Hope**

**Focal Passage:** Luke 2:1-21

**Supporting Passage:** Galatians 4:4-5

**Focal Point:** We have hope because Jesus is God's gift to the world and Jesus promised that He would return one day and we would be with Him forever.

**Song for the Week:** "Light of the World" by Lauren Daigle

**Verse to Meditate on for the week:** Luke 2:17

#### **Devotional Thought**

Sometimes when I get some really good news, I just have to share it! I feel like I'll explode if I don't! What about you? What do you do when you get some really AMAZING news? Do you hold it in? No way! Well, Christmas is the best news that any person has ever received, so let's be like those shepherds in the Christmas story, and let it rip! Let's tell anyone who will listen that Jesus is born! The Bible tells us that those shepherds told "everyone" what they had seen. That's a lot of people, and I think that it shows that they had been truly changed by what they had witnessed. It's just incredible to me that Jesus was changing lives just seconds into his life on earth. Jesus entered the world at just the right time. God knew what he was doing in sending Jesus to be the fulfillment of our hope. Hope is an eager expectation. It is a feeling of expectation and desire for a certain thing to happen. The arrival of Jesus at Christmas is the fulfillment of hope. We celebrate God's faithfulness and goodness. We are reminded that God will always come through on his promises. Even though two thousand years later, we are still waiting for the second coming of Jesus, there is still hope. Whatever battles we may be struggling with, we may be asking the same question as God's people did so long ago. Will God fulfill his promises? Can we still have hope? Christmas is a reminder that we can fix our hearts on the incredible gift of Jesus. When we do this, we experience the fulfillment of HOPE and it is a life giving thrill. My prayer for us this year is that we too will be changed by this Christmas season as we celebrate the significance of Jesus' arrival.

#### **Discussion Questions:**

How is your spiritual life? How is your prayer life? Are you reading the bible? Are you spending time in personal worship?

What is one thing God is teaching or has taught you recently?

How can you as a family make Christmas Eve more about Jesus and what he has done? What tangible things can we do?

**Activities:**

Make a list of all the people you want to tell about God's gift of Jesus. Write down what you would say to them. What are some ways we can share Jesus with friends and family?

Draw a picture of baby Jesus lying in a manger. Below it, write the words, "I can share God's gift to others." Hang it in your home to remind you and your family that God fulfilled his promise when Jesus was born and that means that we can live in hope today as we eagerly await Jesus' return to make all things new.

Choose your favorite Christmas Hymn and sing it together as a family.