

Bible Background

Luke 2:1-20

In Ephesians 6, we read about various pieces of armor: “So stand with the belt of truth around your waist, justice as your breastplate, and put shoes on your feet so that you are ready to spread the good news of peace” (Ephesians 6:14-15). Why does the Bible use shoes as an instrument of peace? Today’s Bible story might help answer that question. In the story, we hear about people using their feet in the service of peace. Mary and Joseph walk from Nazareth to Bethlehem. The shepherds walk from the fields to a stable, and later into town to bear witness to the Savior’s birth. As you think about the story, reflect on how those feet were used to bring a message of peace to the world.

Mary was just a young woman—a teenager—when an angel announced that she would become pregnant: “The power of the Most High will overshadow you” (Luke 1:35). The events of Jesus’ birth came at the time of a census for the entire Roman Empire. Judea was under Roman rule, so Mary and Joseph had to make a trip to their ancestral home to be counted in the census. The rest of the story unfolds in a way that is familiar to us. Mary and Joseph have trouble finding lodging. They eventually are given a stable to use, and then Jesus comes into the world.

Shepherds were tending their flocks at night when an angel greeted them and told them not to be afraid. The shepherds were told to go and find the newborn Savior and his parents. As the shepherds hurried to obey the angel’s words, they were greeted by a multitude of angels praising God: “Glory to God in heaven, and on earth peace among those whom he favors” (Luke 2:14). They found the baby with his mother and Joseph, then the shepherds hurried to tell many people about the great miracle they had seen and experienced.

How have you used your feet to spread peace? Maybe you’ve walked into a conflict with the hope of finding a peaceful solution. Perhaps you’ve walked—or run—to help people who are suffering find some peace in their lives. As with any long journey, spreading peace begins with one step. Mary took one step of faith and embraced her calling as the mother of God’s Messiah. Likewise, the shepherds took steps of faith to tell others what they had witnessed. We can take our own steps of faith today and, in doing so, carry peace into the world.



Bible Story

Mary’s Journey to Bethlehem

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Castle Callout

Armor Up with Peace!

Additional Bible Reading

📖 John 14:27

📖 Galatians 5:22-23

📖 Teacher Tip

This Bible Background feature is a supplemental aid provided for you, the leader, to give context for each session’s story before you teach on it. You may share this information with your Knights if desired, but it is not a recommended portion of the intended lesson.