IMPACT BIBLE STUDY
DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

"JESUS' INFANCY AND YOUTH"

Day 1 – Read Matthew 1:18 – 2:23 and Luke 2:1-52

1. What was meaningful to you from last week's lesson?

2. In today's Scripture reading:

   Mary conceived – how?

   Joseph believed – whom?

   The Magi deceived – whom?

   The shepherds received – what?

   Simeon was relieved – why?

   Anna perceived – what?

Day 2 – "Joseph and Mary" – Review Matthew 1:18-25

3. a. Based on Deuteronomy 22:23-24, what consequences would a Jewish woman in Mary's condition face?

   b. To avoid this, what did Joseph plan to do in Matthew 1:19?

4. Every Jew was aware of Messianic prophecies.

   a. How do you think Joseph may have felt toward Mary after the angel's announcement?

b. . . . toward the responsibility of parenting Jesus?

5. Share your thoughts on what it would be like to parent a perfect child.

6. What does verse 21 say Jesus will do?

7. By Joseph's actions, what characteristics or qualities do you see in him?

Day 3 – "A Savior is Born" – Review Luke 2:1-40

8. a. What was the prophecy in Micah 5:2?

b. According to Luke 2:1-7, why were Joseph and Mary in Bethlehem?

c. Bethlehem means "house of bread." What did Jesus say in John 6:35?

9. a. The angel appeared to the shepherds and

. . . brought what good news?

. . . gave what sign to look for?

. . . praised God by saying what?

b. The shepherds responded by doing what in verses 15-20?

10. a. What was the prophecy of Simeon concerning Jesus in verse 32?

b. Simeon said that through Jesus "the thoughts of many hearts will be revealed." Share how you think that is still happening today.

11. Anna praised God as she beheld the baby Jesus. Whose birth (other than that of Jesus) has given you the greatest amount of joy? Why?

<u>Day 4 – "Encounter with Herod" – Review Matthew 2:1-23</u>

12. a. The Magi from the East had been directed by a _____ and they came to Jerusalem on what mission?

b. How did they fulfill their mission?

13. a. Why did Joseph take his family to Egypt?

b. What prophecy in Hosea 11:1 was fulfilled?

14. How was the prophecy fulfilled that the Messiah would be called a Nazarene?

15. What we term "the Christmas story" is so familiar.

a. What do you like most about the Christmas season?

The least?

b. What's the hardest part of the season for you?

c. When did "the Christmas story" take on a real significance for you personally?

Day 5 – "The Boy Jesus" – Review Luke 2:41-52

16. This is the only episode from Jesus' childhood recorded for us.

a. Joseph and Mary:

. . . Why were they in Jerusalem?

. . . What was the problem on the trip home?

. . . What was Mary's concern in verse 48?

b. Jesus was ____ years old.

. . . Do you think He felt lost? Why or why not?

. . . How did He impress the temple teachers?

. . . How did He respond to His parents' concern?

17. How do you think obedience and spiritual maturity are related?

18. Growth is the goal – to be more like Jesus. Share one thing you think has contributed to that growth for you this week.