



#### SHARE:

What are some of your favorite family traditions around the Holidays? What purpose do those traditions serve?

When you think about the “innkeeper” in the Christmas story...what comes to your mind? Understanding? Disapproval? Can you relate?

How do you as a family “make room” for Jesus around the holidays? With your traditions and routines?

#### READ:

1). Read [Luke 2:1-7](#)

- is there any part of this story that we read right through the details and fill in the gaps ourselves?
- “WHILE they were there” how does that word change the image we are used to seeing?
- Was there an INN and an Innkeeper? Only other place this word was used in Luke was in (22:11)

2). Whether Jesus was rejected because of overcrowding...or forced to be in discomfort in the middle of a mess...what is the main takeaway from the birth narrative?

3). Read [Leviticus 26:11-12](#)

- God made his dwelling among us...and dwells amidst our mess.
- How comfortable are you showing Jesus your mess?

4). Read [Acts 5: 42](#)

- Going house to house. Each home is a temple where hope lives and joy grows.
- How do you treat your home like a temple?

**Pray:** Lord, we ask that you would dwell in our mess...use our mess...as altar of your message...your gospel truth and hope and joy in our world.



## HOPE LIVES HERE: DOOR TO DOOR

Luke 2:1-7

December 14, 2025 – Pastor Ben Schrank

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“And [WHILE](#) they were there, the time came for her to give birth. And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in swaddling cloths and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the [INN](#).” Luke 2:6-7

καταλύματι – katalymati- [UPPER ROOM](#)

πανδοχεῖον – pandoecheion- [INN](#)

No innkeeper means Jesus likely wasn’t dramatically turned away... instead He was placed in the very [MIDDLE](#) of a mess.

- Make [ROOM](#) in your hearts for us. 2 Cor. 7:2a
- “I will make my [DWELLING](#) among you, and my soul shall not abhor you. And I will walk among you and will be your God, and you shall be my people.” Lev. 26:11-12
- “And every day, in the temple and from [HOUSE](#) to [HOUSE](#), they did not cease teaching and preaching that the Christ is Jesus.” Acts 5:42

The gospel is not just about getting everyone to church...it’s about getting the church to [EVERYONE](#).

This means: each door is an entrance to a [TEMPLE](#) where hope lives and each life is an [ALTAR](#) where joy grows.

Gospel [JOY](#) grows roots in our lives because it is not based on what’s happening now...instead on what [HAPPENED](#) in the middle of a mess.

For next week please read Isaiah 7:10-14; Romans 1:1-7; Matthew 1:18-25