1. **Luke 1:31-33**

* What does the name Jesus mean (Google it if you need to)?
* What unique titles does the “angel” attribute to Jesus?
* Whose throne will Jesus be given?
* How long will Jesus rule according to the scriptures?
* **2 Samuel 7:8-17**
* What does God promise David, that we see being fulfilled in the reading from **Luke**?

1. **Luke 1:34-35**

* What does Mary’s response reveal about her here?
* **Isaiah 7:10-14**
* What will be the “sign” according to the **Septuagint’s** version of **verse 14** in **Isaiah**?
* What will the child be named?
* **Matthew 1:20-23**
* What version of the **Old Testament** did the author of **Matthew** quote, the **Hebrew** version, or the **Greek Septuagint (**which contains **46** **Old Testament** Books**)**?
* According to **Luke** and **Matthew**, how will the child be conceived?
* What does “Emmanuel” mean according to the scriptures?
* What relationship do you see between the names “Emmanuel” and “Jesus”?
* **2 Corinthians 5:1-5**
* What is this “tent” Paul is talking about?
* **Sirach 24:3-9**
* Apply your definition of “tent” to this reading in the **Old Testament** while reflecting on it, and share who you think it may be speaking about?

1. **Luke 1:36-38**

* Reflect on Mary’s response and share what comes to mind?
* **St. Bede** (672 AD – 735 AD) *Homilies on The Gospels Section 1.3*

“’Fear not, Mary” he said, ‘You have found grace with God. Behold, you will conceive in your womb and give birth to a son, and you will call his name Jesus. He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High’. We should carefully note the order of the words here, and the more firmly they are engrafted in our heart, the more evident it will be that the sum total of our redemption consists in them. For they proclaim with perfect clarity that the Lord Jesus, that is, our Savior, was both the true Son of God the Father and the true son of a mother who was a human being. ‘Behold,’ he says, ‘you will conceive in your womb and give birth to a son’- acknowledge that this true human being assumed the true substance of flesh from the flesh of the Virgin! ‘He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High’ – confess too that this same [Son] is true God of true God, coeternal Son forever of the eternal Father!

The use of the future tense in the statement, ‘He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High,’ should not lead anyone to suppose that this is to be understood that Christ was not Lord before his birth from the Virgin. Instead, we should understand this statement to mean that as a human being born in time he received the same power of divine majesty that he had eternally had as Son of God, so that our Mediator and Redeemer was one person with two natures.

‘And the Lord God will give him the seat of his father David’. The seat of David refers to the kingdom of the Israelites populace, which in his time David governed with faithful devotion, at the Lord’s order, as well as with his help. Therefore, the Lord gave our Redeemer the seat of his father David when he arranged that he become incarnate from David’s offspring, so that the people whom David had ruled with temporal sovereignty he might with spiritual grace bring to an eternal kingdom.”

In this house he will reign forever, ‘and of his kingdom there will be no end’. In it, indeed, he reigns in the present life when he rules the hearts of the elect, inhabiting them through faith and through his love and he governs by his continual protections so that the gifts of heavenly reward may be attained.”

* Please share something meaningful that stood out for you today with the group.