 **Message Outline**

*Christmas Conversations: THE Original Christmas*

**Luke 2**

**Intro:** Advent: shifting pews, pondering OT texts with popsicle sticks…

* Week 1: the seed of the woman who will crush the serpent (Gen.3:15)…
* Week 2: Virgin Birth (Is.7), Nicknames (Is.9), Origins (Is.11)…
* Week 3: Jesus’ baby pics and echoes of Easter (Is.53)…
* Week 4: GPS pinpoint location Bethlehem (Mic.5)…

\*God is so good He calls His shots in advance!!!

**Read:** Luke 2:1-21

*\*What about Christmas most captures your attention?* \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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* This year, what’s got me is the BIG-smallness of Christmas…

 -Infinite God on throne of Universe…sliding down finite birth canal?!!

 -Transcendent One…becoming Immanent/Incarnate?!!!

 -God who is self-sufficient…now needing feeding bottles and diaper changes?!!!

 -Heavenly army of angels singing…on a Silent Night, Holy Night?!!!

 \*Christmas: a paradox worth pondering (v.19)!!!

* What if the BIGness of God is more often found in the smallest of things (cf. Mt.13:31-32)?!!

 -God’s mega-moves found in mini- mangers!!! God’s grandeur in tiny grains…

* Song “Dream Small” by Josh Wilson…

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**Advent:**

**The Christ Candle**

**6**For **to us a child is born**,
    to us a son is given,
    and the government will be on his shoulders.
And he will be called
    Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God,
    Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.
**7**Of the greatness of his government and peace
    there will be no end.
He will reign on David’s throne
    and over his kingdom,
establishing and upholding it
    with justice and righteousness
    from that time on and forever.
The zeal of the Lord Almighty
    will accomplish this. –Isaiah 9:6-7 NIV

*![C:\Users\LSnow\AppData\Local\Microsoft\Windows\INetCache\IE\MGEUKNSP\Jesus-in-manger[1].jpg]()*

*Dearly beloved, today our Savior is born; let us rejoice. Sadness should have no place on the birthday of life. The fear of death has been swallowed up; life brings us joy with the promise of eternal happiness. No one is shut out from this joy; all share the same reason for rejoicing. Our Lord, victor over sin and death, finding no man free from sin, came to free us all.*

 *–St. Leo the Great*

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