

Jesus Is for All People

Keep these ideas in mind as you study **Unit 2, Session 8**.

Caesar Augustus was the Roman emperor in Jesus' time. As a dictator, his brutal rule prompted the people to call him *divi filius*, the son of god. His fear tactics made a temporary and superficial peace, not a true peace.

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Because Joseph was a descendant of David's, Luke's Gospel tells us that he and Mary traveled to Bethlehem to register for the census, a count of citizens.

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The infant Jesus was wrapped in swaddling clothes, or strips of cloth, which is a reminder of his kingship and that King Solomon was also wrapped in swaddling clothes as a baby. Placing Jesus in a manger reminds us that he himself is food for the world.

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Jesus, the Good Shepherd, came to save everyone, not just the privileged few. He restores us to wholeness and rescues us from sin. Jesus makes it possible for us to be reconciled with others and with God.

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A novena, prayed for nine days in a row, is a Catholic prayer tradition.

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The Magi, who followed a star to find Jesus, were the first Gentiles to believe that Jesus was the Messiah.

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Solidarity is the attitude of strength and unity that leads to the sharing of spiritual and material goods. As we grow in faith in God, we grow in solidarity with people all over the world.

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Threatened by the prophecy of the Messiah's birth, King Herod tried to hold on to power by ordering the death of every male child under the age of two. Joseph, Mary, and Jesus became refugees, or exiles, in Egypt to escape from King Herod.

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A prophecy is a divine communication that comes through a human being. Jesus' early hardships fulfilled many prophecies about the Messiah.

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Our compassion and solidarity with exiles and refugees, immigrants, and persecuted people around the world is our response to the hardships that Jesus, Mary, and Joseph endured and to Jesus' saving action on the Cross.

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