

# Journey CHURCH

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## Viewer Guide

### The Case for Christmas: Session 1: Setting the Record Straight

#### Group Discussion:

*Once the video has concluded, break into small groups for a time of discussion. Don't be shy—grab your chair and circle up! Find someone who will become your partner over the next few weeks. It's best for women to choose women and men to choose men. Get your new partner's phone number so you can connect during the week.*

1. Have you ever heard the teaching that Jesus wasn't refused a room at the "inn"? What struck you as the most significant point as that myth was debunked?
2. One scholar suggests Mary and Joseph could have been in Bethlehem "five minutes or five weeks" before the baby Jesus was born, emphasizing the point that wasn't necessarily any panic. Does that differ from how you have heard the Christmas story? Does it make a difference to you? *Share your impressions with the group.*
3. What are your thoughts about the reliability of Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John? Do you view their Gospel accounts as trustworthy, or do you have some questions and/or doubts? (It's okay if you do, because that's one of the reasons why you're meeting together this Christmas season. Share honestly!)
4. What other questions have you had about the reliability of Jesus' birth story as told in the Bible? How did this week's teaching help address these concerns? What other questions do you still have at this point that you want to express to the group?

#### Closing Prayer:

*Conclude your group discussion time with a few minutes for prayer. Nothing will bring your group together quicker than knowing you have brothers and sisters who care enough about the issues you raise to bring them before the Lord for his answers and his direction.*