DAY 14

LUKE 2:6–7

While they were there, the time came for the baby to be born, and she gave birth to her firstborn, a son. She wrapped him in cloths and placed him in a manger, because there was no guest room available for them.

This is the moment we've been waiting for, the big announcement of Jesus being born into the world. How does the Gospel of Luke describe it? A couple of sentences, very few details. From the very beginning, God has made it clear Jesus would be a different kind of King. No parades and trumpets sounding, no big celebration happening in the palace for all to hear. The birth of the King that changed the world was nothing like we expected.

Jesus chose to enter into our broken world in the most humble and vulnerable way—by being born into a family that was on the outside, often overlooked and judged. The good news is that the King of Kings is not sitting in a throne in a palace far away... He is in a manger, surrounded by the dirt, grime, and messiness of the world. God came to redeem the whole world, including those of us who sometimes feel like there's not room for us in the Kingdom of God.

"Because there was no guest room available for them."

On this most important night, no one made room for Mary, an expectant mother; all they saw were her circumstances. But that didn't stop God's plan from moving forward. As the people of God, we must open doors and create space for the downtrodden and overlooked. To see people as image bearers and make sure they know they too are invited into the Kingdom of God.

REFLECT

As you Give More and Love All this Advent, how can you make an intentional effort to really notice and see the people you're in community with? Is there someone in your life that you need to share the good news of the Gospel with?

PRAY

Heavenly Father, open my eyes to see the realities of the world around me, the brokenness and the beauty. I pray that this Advent season my heart would overflow with worship and gratitude as I find ways to serve others in my neighborhood, church, and city. Amen.