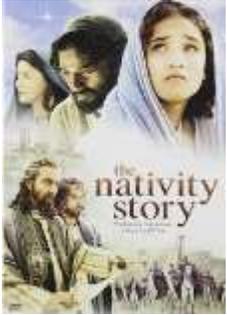


# Advent I Ordinary People – Extraordinary God



In the scriptures and through *The Nativity Story*



*As we watch the first 20-25 minutes of the movie, write down scripture references quoted, shown, or hinted at. Blanks are given to help, but there may be more!*

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**A main theme in the movie is hope in prophesy (Word of God).**

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The movie begins with the killing of the Bethlehem children.  
How does this scene set the theme?

\_\_\_\_\_ The announcement of John to Zachariah.

What does the movie highlight from the scriptures?

What decisions were put in the movie (that are not in the scriptures)? (Exodus 3 – 4)

How does the movie highlight Zachariah as an “ordinary person” of his day?

What “ordinary life” events are shown in Nazareth?

Teaching – \_\_\_\_\_

Planting

Building

Children playing

Taxes

We complain about taxes (our country was founded on this complaint)

What is similar for us? What is different?

Can you imagine the possibility of your children being taken?

What does the incident with the donkey show about...

Mary’s father?    The Romans?    Joseph?

How does the scene with Herod at Masada compare to the taxes in Nazareth?

How is the hope in prophesy theme lived out...

in Nazareth?    in Herod?

\_\_\_\_\_ Wise Men

\_\_\_\_\_ What decision was made for this film about the star?

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Betrothal / Marriage in Nazareth

\_\_\_\_\_ - mezuzah

*Barukh atah Adonai, Elohaynu, melekh ha-olam,*

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Blessing, betrothal, marriage, love?

What seems to be the motivation for Mary and Joseph's betrothal?

Mary: "forced"

Joseph – will have more to say later...

Mary's Father

"There is always hope... even in Nazareth"

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What decisions were made for the film about the annunciation to Mary?  
How do they compare with our assumptions? With the scriptures?

Compare Mary's response to her betrothal and to Gabriel.

Normal life: seeping arrangements

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How is the life of Mary, her family, and her village similar to ours?

What would it be like for God's plan to "break in" to your life?

How does God "break in" to your life?