

Royal Redeemer Going Deeper Guide

Based on the sermon for December 22, 2024
Christmas Classics: Christmas Shoes



**For personal reflection or for use as a devotion with a CGS
Community or family**

- **Begin by reflecting on/sharing a high and/or a low from your week**

- **CONNECT**

- Imagine you had a 'peace meter' that showed how grounded you feel. What tends to make it shoot up, and what drains it?

- **GROW**

"But you, Bethlehem Ephrathah, though you are small among the clans of Judah, out of you will come for me one who will be ruler over Israel, whose origins are from of old, from ancient times."

3 Therefore Israel will be abandoned until the time when she who is in labor bears a son, and the rest of his brothers return to join the Israelites.

4 He will stand and shepherd his flock in the strength of the Lord, in the majesty of the name of the Lord his God. And they will live securely, for then his greatness will reach to the ends of the earth.

5 And he will be our peace when the Assyrians invade our land and march through our fortresses.

Micah 5:2-5a

- Share any words or phrases that speak into your life today.
- Why is the choice of Bethlehem as the birthplace of the ruler significant, both in its historical insignificance and its role in the biblical narrative?
- How does this prophecy connect with the broader themes of Advent and Christmas, particularly God's use of humble beginnings to bring about His plans?
- In verse 2, Micah emphasizes that Bethlehem, though small, will be the birthplace of a ruler. How does this reflect God's pattern of using the unexpected or overlooked for His purposes?
- Verse 4 describes the ruler standing in strength and providing security for His people. How does this imagery point us to the person and work of Jesus Christ?
- Micah describes this ruler as bringing peace (v. 5a). What kind of peace does Jesus bring, and how does it differ from worldly definitions of peace?
- How does the promise of security in this passage address feelings of insecurity in our lives today?
- The song *Christmas Shoes* highlights themes of love and generosity in the face of hardship. How does this song's message of sacrificial giving align with the hope and transformation described in Micah 5?

- o How does Christ's eternal love, as foretold in Micah, inspire us to live with generosity and confidence, even when we face challenges?

- **SERVE** *others*

In what ways can the peace and security we have in Christ this Christmas season empower you to act generously and confidently toward others?

- **End with Prayer, the Lord's Prayer, or a short Blessing**