

# emmanuel

WHEN GOD SHOWS UP Christmas 2011

## He Favors the Humble

Roger Ellis, *Pastor of Equipping*

*The Christmas story is not always portrayed in the way you have imagined. What picture comes to mind when you sing about Bethlehem, or no room, or the stable, or perhaps the manger?*

*Whether or not your expectations are satisfactorily met, one thing is certain from the Christmas story, **God favors the humble.***

### 1 Why Bethlehem?

### 2 Why Shepherds?

### 3 Why Jesus?

- Zechariah 9:9
- Philippians 2:5-8
- Luke 2:14; 3:22

### 4 Why Us?

- 1 Corinthians 1:26-31
- 1 Peter 5:5; James 4:6

#### The One Thing:

*God favors the humble, so humble yourself before Him!*

# taking it home

{ notes for small group, family & personal study }  
**december 11, 2011**

## keeping it real

1 How would you define the word humble? Tell of a time when you clearly humbled yourself or of a time when someone humbled themselves to assist you. Is there a difference between being humble and being humiliated? Are there any similarities?

## look at the book

2 God clearly favors (blesses, extends grace to) the humble throughout the Bible story. How are His favor and the person's humility pictured in the verses below? Why is this favor so difficult for us to extend to others?

- a. Luke 15:1-2, 11-32
- b. Luke 18:9-14
- c. Luke 23:39-43

3 Why is it that God chooses to use humble people (like the shepherds in Luke 2) to spread the good news and expand His kingdom?

- a. 1 Corinthians 1:26-31
- b. 2 Corinthians 4:7-11

## the next step

4 Do you agree or disagree that we are the proud ones rather than the humble ones referred to in the following verses? Are you in opposition to God in any way at the present time? What do you need to do to remove the opposition?

- a. 1 Peter 5:5-7
- b. James 4:6-10

### my next step this week is to:

- Memorize James 4:6 (ask God to point out my pride).
- Desire to trust Christ.
- Desire to be baptized.
- Other \_\_\_\_\_