Merry Christ-mess
The Mess: Crazy Ancestors and Relatives

 Luke 1:5-23  Pg 723

~The “unusual” genealogy
~Good ones
~Unusual ones
  Rahab and Ruth
  David and Solomon
  Ahaz and Amon

But: God was present!
The Mess: Infertility

Matthew 1:1-7

~Elizabeth and Zechariah
~Faithful OT Saints
~Yet after many years...no children

But: God was present!
The Mess: Unplanned Teen Pregnancy

Luke 1:26-38

~Mary struggled with it
~Her parents must have struggled!
~Joseph doubted and struggled
~People talked...for all of Jesus life!

But: God was present!
The Mess: Divorce Discussions

Matthew 1:18-24

~Mary struggled with it
~Her parents must have struggled!
~Joseph doubted and struggled
~People talked...for all of Jesus life!

But: God was present!
The Mess: Unplanned Trip @ 8-9 months

Luke 2:1-7  

~The decree says we have to do WHAT?  
~Approx 100 miles, 8-10 days walk  
~Imagine THAT journey for a pregnant woman  
~Imagine that journey WITH a pregnant woman  
~God, why NOW?  

But: God was present!
The Mess: No Place To Stay

Luke 2:7  Pg 724

~Frustration...place to place? Or just one
~Lack of family support: Joseph’s home town!
~Lack of people to rejoice with

But: God was present!
God Can Be Present In Your Mess

~Trust that God is **bigger** than your mess
~Remember that **God sees your mess** and your struggle
~**Pray** and ask God to help with your mess
~Continue to **walk with God IN** your mess
~Wait in hope for God to **move** in your mess
~Know God has a **purpose** for your mess
Isaiah 43:1-3

“But now, this is what the LORD says-- he who created you, O Jacob, he who formed you, O Israel: "Fear not, for I have redeemed you; I have summoned you by name; you are mine. When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and when you pass through the rivers, they will not sweep over you. When you walk through the fire, you will not be burned; the flames will not set you ablaze.

For I am the LORD, your God, the Holy One of Israel, your Savior...”