

WEEK 5

WRAPPED!

The Vulnerable Savior for a Waiting World

SCRIPTURE TEXT

**Luke
2:1-14**

**“I bring you good news of great joy that will
be for all the people.”**

—Luke 2:10 NIV

**“You will find a baby wrapped in cloths and
lying in a manger.”**

—Luke 2:12 ESV

Introduction: A Savior Wrapped for the World

The birth of Jesus is one of the most familiar stories in Scripture. But it's also one of the most radical. The eternal God—clothed in majesty, wrapped in light — chose to be wrapped in cloths and laid in a manger.

This image is not just tender; it's missional. It reminds us that the Savior came not in power, but in vulnerability. And He came not just for one people, but for all the people.

Wrapped in Humanity, Sent for the Nations

Jesus was wrapped in cloths because He was fully human. He entered the world like every child — fragile, dependent, exposed to danger. But this wrapping was not weakness — it was identification.

- He wrapped Himself in our vulnerability so He could reach every person.
- He entered poverty so He could lift the poor.
- He came in obscurity so He could be known in every corner of the earth.

This is the heart of the global gospel: God with us, not just in power, but in pain. Not just in glory, but in humility.

From Manger to Mission

The angel's announcement was clear: “Good news of great joy for all the people.” From the very beginning, the message of Jesus was global.

- The shepherds were the first to hear — outsiders, marginalized, ordinary.
- The Magi came from the East — foreigners, seekers, Gentiles.
- Simeon declared that Jesus would be “a light for revelation to the Gentiles.”

Jesus was wrapped in cloths, but He was never meant to stay wrapped. He came to be unleashed — to bring salvation to the ends of the earth.

Wrapped in Death, Unwrapped in Resurrection

The wrapping didn't end at the manger. Jesus was wrapped again — this time in burial cloths. But even the tomb could not contain Him.

- The strips of linen were left behind.
- The grave was defeated.
- The Savior was unleashed.

This is the message we carry to the world: Jesus is alive, and He is not bound by cloths, customs, or borders.

Unwrapping Jesus in Our Lives and the World

Sometimes we keep Jesus wrapped — safe, contained, manageable. But the global cause of Christ demands that we unwrap Him:

- In our hearts: letting Him rule every area of life.
- In our communities: living boldly and compassionately.
- In the world: proclaiming His name across cultures and continents.

I wonder if the reason Jesus isn't more active in our lives is because we have Him wrapped. We keep him wrapped because it is safe. If I can contain Jesus, He won't have freedom in this area of my life. It is safe, but it is not good.

In C.S. Lewis's "The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe," four human children find themselves miraculously transported through a wardrobe from their world into another. The land they stumble into is locked in perpetual winter by the White Witch. Her enemies, the true citizens of that land, await the coming of four humans to sit on four empty thrones in a castle by the sea. Talking animals and mystical creatures help the human children travel to the castle and form an army to battle the Witch. During the undercover journey, winter thaws into spring and all the creatures begin looking for a great being they called Aslan.

The children are stunned to learn that Aslan is a lion.

He is the embodiment of Good in this land.

They ask if he is safe.

The animals laugh out loud. "Safe? No, he is not safe. He is not a tame lion."

Seeing the children go pale with fear, they quickly add, "But he is good."

Jesus is not tame. He is not safe. But He is good. And He is calling us to join Him in His mission.

Conclusion: Unwrap the Savior, Share the Light

Jesus was wrapped so He could be revealed. He came in humility so He could be proclaimed in glory. He entered one town so He could reach every nation.

Let us unwrap Him in our lives. Let us proclaim Him to the world. Let us live the truth: He is not safe, but He is good.