

# RefuJesus

by Darren Wright

The story goes... Jesus was born in a manger, the shepherds, wise men and angels went to see and worship him.

On their way to see the babe the king asked the wise men to spy for him. The wise men head off to see the babe but decide that they should keep him safe, warn the parents and leave via another road. The king, seeing this threat to his power decides to kill the baby, just like the good power control freak he is. With this in mind Jesus' folks decided to leave and make haste.

So, the first thing that Jesus really did as a human being was become a refugee, his folks saw danger and out of the need and want to keep him safe from harm, they left where they were and ran.

We don't really know much of what happened to Jesus prior to him turning 30, the theory is that he studied lots, made himself well known amongst the community in which he lived. One thing's for sure is that lots of people know him as the son of Joseph the carpenter.

Another thing we do know is that he read lots, knew the scriptures and stories, he knew the people and he got used to eating with everyone.

But before his 30th we don't know much at all...

It's possible and likely that his family spent a few years hiding from the nasty, powerful king... hiding like asylum seekers. Hearing of the stories of his people from his parents and friends who hid him from the powers that wanted him dead.

These days whilst he hid they'd be put in a refugee camp that would possibly be raided every week by rebels, his friends and other community members killed, people dying of starvation and other disorders.

If by any stretch of luck that Jesus and his folks could have got out of the camp or jumped on a boat in an attempt to flee the king they'd have been put in a detention centre in the middle of the Australian outback, razor wire surrounding them and guards 24/7.

This makes me wonder, if Jesus was to enter our world right now, if Jesus was to land in Australia I'd put money on him being born overseas and travelling here on a boat, Jesus the boat-person...

Jesus would be one of those kids that we'd be not able to see or hear of because he'd

have sewn his mouth together in protest, gone on a hunger strike, organised a demonstration...

He'd be depressed, sharing stories with people who are without power, learning the stories of his people by sitting around in community circles, sharing with people of different cultures simply because they'd be thrown together in a prison we call a detention centre.

Jesus would be that bad refugee person that some of our politicians would speak out against and use as an example of why "we must protect our borders."

And if Jesus' claim for asylum was heard and accepted he might just be able to enter Australia and become a citizen. If not, he'd be sent back to where he was born, persecuted and killed by the king.

And if he were accepted and became a refugee, would we still have persecuted him?

Jesus the refugee.

Jesus the babe that sought safety from a king that wanted him dead.

Refujesus...