

Extra Extra!—A Devotional about Jesus' Birth!



DAY 1

Read Isaiah 9:6 NlrV

"A child will be born to us. A son will be given to us. He will rule over us. And he will be called Wonderful Adviser and Mighty God. He will also be called Father Who Lives Forever and Prince Who Brings Peace."

Have you ever waited for something exciting, like a snow day or your birthday? Long before the first Christmas, God's people waited for Someone. Things felt dark and broken, but God used messengers called prophets to share BIG news: a Savior was coming! God wanted everyone to know His rescue plan. So today, remember that God always keeps His word.

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Draw a line from "Good News" to the Globe.



## DAY 2

### Read Micah 5:2 NlrV

*"The LORD says, 'Bethlehem Ephrathah, you might not be an important town in the nation of Judah. But out of you will come for me a ruler over Israel. His family line goes back to the early years of your nation. It goes all the way back to days of long ago.'"*

God used Micah to speak to His people. He told everyone, "Bethlehem is small, but a great Ruler will come from there!" Hundreds of years later, that promise came true. Jesus was born in little Bethlehem. God loves using small things in big ways! Look around your house. Could a card, a cookie, or a kind word cheer someone up? When you choose to help, Jesus shines through you.

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Cut snowflakes from recycled newspaper or paper. On each flake, write one "good news" word (hope, peace, joy, love). Tape the snowflakes around a window so neighbors see the message shining through.



DAY 3



Read Luke 2:11 NIrV

"Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you. He is the Messiah, the Lord."

After hundreds of years of waiting, every promise came true in Bethlehem. The angel told surprised shepherds, "A Savior has been born to you!" The good news wasn't whispered to kings first; it was shouted to everyday people. God wanted EVERYONE to know His love, starting with people nobody expected.

Jesus comes close to people like you and me. Jesus forgives for wrong choices, gives peace when life feels stormy, and hope that you can hold onto. Because Jesus is God's greatest gift. You don't have to earn His love; you just receive it.

Jesus' good news lasts forever and grows as you share it. When you tell a friend why Christmas matters, you pass on God's promise of hope.

Find a sticky note. Write one way Jesus has been good news for you (like "He forgives me" or "He helps me be brave"). Place it somewhere you'll see tomorrow. Then pray, asking God to show you someone who needs that same good news.



DAY 4

Read Luke 2:10 NIrV

"But the angel said to them, 'Do not be afraid. I bring you good news. It will bring great joy for all the people.'"

"Extra! Extra! Read all about it!" That's how people once shared exciting news. On the first Christmas, God used an angel choir! Shepherds were terrified, but the angel declared, "Don't be afraid. I bring you good news for everyone!" The shepherds hurried to see baby Jesus, then raced to tell the town.

You may not hear glowing angels tonight, yet God still invites us to share the best story ever. Who do you know that needs to know that Jesus loves them? A friend who feels left out? A cousin who thinks Christmas is only about presents? Shout hope with kind actions, brave words, and joyful smiles.

Find ways to pass on this great news. You could draw a picture of the nativity and gift it to a neighbor. Sing carols at a nursing home. Tell someone, "Jesus came for you!" When we share, God's light shines brighter than any Christmas lights this season.

"Dear God, thank You for sending Jesus for the whole world. Help me share His good news with courage and joy today."





Extra Extra!—A Devotional about Jesus' Birth!

DAY 1

Read Luke 1:31 NlrV

"You will become pregnant and give birth to a son. You must call him Jesus."

Have you ever made big plans, like building a LEGO® castle, only to realize you needed help? God had the biggest plan ever, a plan to rescue the world. For hundreds of years, people wondered when the Rescuer would come. Then, in a quiet house in a tiny town, God sent the angel Gabriel to Mary with amazing news: "You will have a baby named Jesus." Boom! God's rescue plan was happening!

God chose Mary. She didn't know every detail, but she trusted God. When life feels different, maybe you are at a new school, lost a game, or your family moves, remember that God always has a good plan, even when you can't see everything yet. When life changes, remember God's plan never breaks.

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DAY 2

Read Luke 1:38 NlrV

"I serve the Lord," Mary answered. "May it happen to me just as you said it would." Then the angel left her."

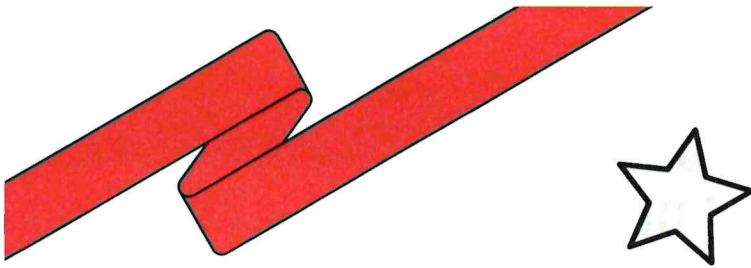
An angel came to Mary with huge news. "You will have God's Son!" Mary didn't need every detail. She simply replied, "I serve the Lord. May it happen just like you said." God's ideas are always good.

You make plans, too. Maybe you have helped plan your birthday party. Plans can change, but God's plan to send Jesus never changed, not even once. He promised long ago to rescue the world and kept that promise.

Sometimes things change, your practice moves, or a trip is canceled. You can choose to serve the Lord and watch for what God does next. He might give you peace, new friends to meet, or a chance to help.

Because Jesus came, you can trust God today. He sees tomorrow and forever.

Cut ten paper strips. Write a promise of God on each, like "God loves me" or "God helps me." Link them into a chain and hang it in your room. Read one link each day and thank God for keeping His promises. These promises remind you that God keeps His good plan for you.



DAY 3

Read 1 John 4:14 NIV

"The Father has sent his Son to be the Savior of the world. We have seen it and are witnesses to it."

Have you ever tried to untangle a giant knot in your shoelaces? That's us with sin, stuck and unable to fix it. God saw the knot and already had a rescue plan. God decided to send His own Son, Jesus. Long before shepherds heard angels and wise men followed a star, God told prophets, "A Savior is coming."

We needed someone perfect to take away our sin, and Jesus is that Someone. Jesus left heaven to be born as a baby, grow up, and open a way back to God. The bottom line is simple: God always had a plan to send Jesus. He did it because He loves everyone, including you, your family, and every kid on your street.

When Christmas lights sparkle so bright, let them remind you of God turning on the light of hope through Jesus. His plan shows that He never gives up on people.

Take a moment and say, "Thank You, God, for sending Jesus." Then draw a gift on a paper and write how Jesus has saved you. Place it where you'll see it tomorrow.

DAY 4

Read Galatians 4:4-5 NIV

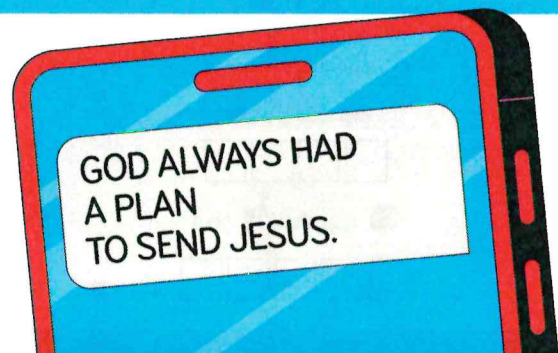
"But then the chosen time came. God sent his Son. A woman gave birth to him. He was born under the authority of the law. He came to set free those who were under the authority of the law. He wanted us to be adopted as children with all the rights children have."

Nothing about Jesus was random. The star, the stable, the shepherds, the song in the sky, each piece showed God's perfect timing. Long before you were born, God planned how to rescue you.

Sometimes plans feel late. Maybe your friend arrives after your game starts, or the cookies need time to bake. When waiting is hard, remember the bottom line: God always had a plan to send Jesus. If God timed Christmas perfectly, God can handle your life too.

Close your eyes and think of something you're waiting for. Imagine placing it like a wrapped gift into God's hands. Trust Him to open it at the perfect time. And just...Trust God every day.

"Dear God, thank You for sending Jesus right on time. Help me trust Your timing and enjoy Your perfect plan each day, Amen."



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DAY 1

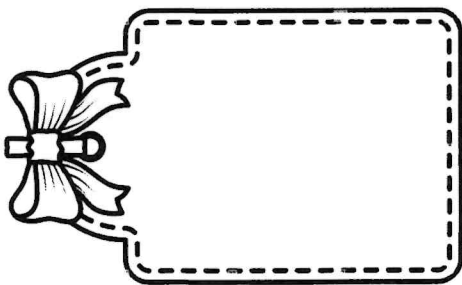
Read John 3:16 NlrV

"God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son. Anyone who believes in him will not die but will have eternal life."

Have you ever seen a gift tag on a present? It shows who the present is for. God placed the biggest tag on Christmas: "To: the whole world. From: God." Inside was Jesus, the greatest gift ever! Sooner or later, gifts might crack, get lost, or need batteries. Jesus never breaks. He forgives sin, fills hearts with love, and stays forever.

Jesus wasn't wrapped in gold paper. He arrived as a baby in a manger so anyone could reach Him. When you open presents, pause and whisper, "Thank You, God, for Jesus." This Christmas, remember God's love, and share that love with smiles, kind words, and helping hands.

Write your name on the gift tag, then color it bright!



DAY 2

Read Luke 2:11 NlrV

"Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you. He is the Messiah, the Lord."

Have you ever raced to unwrap a present, hoping for the perfect surprise? Christmas presents are so great but there is a gift that is better than all other gifts! On the first Christmas night, the angel said, "A Savior has been born to you!" Jesus is God's greatest gift, packed with forgiveness, peace, and forever life—no batteries or updates needed.

Because Jesus is the greatest gift, every other present is just a bonus. Jesus never runs out, and Jesus is always the best gift.

Wrap an empty tissue box like a present. Cut paper slips. Each day, write one way Jesus helps you and your family. Here are some examples. "God forgives, God comforts, Jesus saved me, Jesus doesn't leave me, the Holy Spirit helps me." Drop the slips inside the box. On Christmas morning, open the box and read them aloud to celebrate God's greatest gift, Jesus, together!



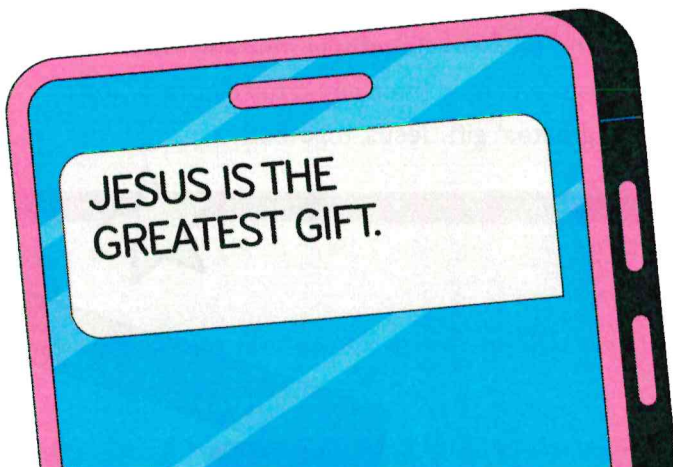
DAY 3

Read 1 John 4:9 NlrV

"Here is how God showed his love among us. He sent his one and only Son into the world. He sent him so we could receive life through him."

Imagine opening a present that never loses power or breaks. That is what God did at Christmas! He showed His love by sending Jesus, the greatest gift. Shepherds heard angels sing, ran to Bethlehem, and found a tiny baby wrapped like any other child. Toys, games, and candy are fun for a while, but they cannot rescue hearts. Jesus can. He brings forgiveness that erases sin, peace that calms fears, and hope that lasts longer than forever.

Find a quiet corner. Close your eyes and picture your favorite present (real or imaginary). Now imagine placing it beside a bright manger. Tell God one reason Jesus is even greater than that present. Write the reason on a small note and tuck it under your tree to read on Christmas morning.



DAY 4

Read Luke 2:14 NlrV

"May glory be given to God in the highest heaven! And may peace be given to those he is pleased with on earth!"

God's angels burst through the night sky, singing, "Glory to God in the highest heaven!" They were not cheering for shiny ribbons or giant boxes. Their song praised WHO God is and WHAT He was doing through Jesus. That first Christmas shows us to keep praising God long after the wrapping paper is gone.

Think about your favorite present, maybe a board game, headphones, or a soccer ball. Those gifts are fun, but they can break, get lost, or be replaced by something newer. God's love never wears out, and His peace stays forever. He is better than any present. When we choose to follow Jesus, our everyday choices become songs that give God glory.

You could whisper a prayer while getting ready for the day, sing a worship song while cleaning your room, or thank God for a friend during recess.

"Dear God, You deserve the loudest praise. Thank You for loving me and sending Jesus. Help my words, choices, and attitude shout "Glory to God" today and every day. Show me one person I can bless with Your love. Amen."



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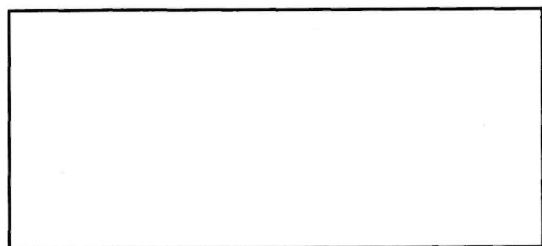
DAY 1

Read Matthew 2:11 NlrV

"The Wise Men went to the house. There they saw the child with his mother Mary. They bowed down and worshiped him. Then they opened their treasures. They gave him gold, frankincense and myrrh."

The wise men followed a star and found Jesus. They bowed, worshiped, and gave treasures. Their visit shouts a message: you can celebrate Jesus any day, not just at Christmas. January snow, spring rain, summer sunshine, and autumn leaves are all great times to worship Jesus. Jesus never leaves, so praise never has to pause. Use your words, "Thank You, Jesus," before lunch. Use your heart, choose kindness on the playground. Use your hands to help at home without being asked. Every act is another way to honor Jesus. Tomorrow, pick another. Keep going and you'll have a year-long party! When friends wonder why you have joy, point them to Jesus, the greatest King. Celebrate Jesus all year long.

Draw inside the rectangle one way you'll celebrate Jesus today. It could be worship, helping, or praying!



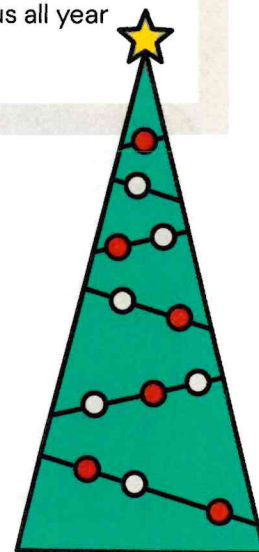
DAY 2

Read Matthew 2:10 NlrV

"When they saw the star, they were filled with joy."

The wise men's journey was long...sand, sun, maybe sore feet! Yet when the star stopped over Jesus, you can be sure the wise men got so much joy! Finding Jesus turned a normal night into a party that never ends. Christmas lights come down, but Jesus' light keeps shining every day. Do you want to celebrate Jesus all year? Keep your eyes on Jesus. Every day. Every time you notice something good, sunrise colors, or an answered prayer, say, "Thank You, Jesus!" You can celebrate Jesus every single day. Not just Christmas morning. And that's an amazing thing!

Decorate a small jar with star stickers. Cut twelve paper strips for the months. On each strip, write one way to celebrate Jesus (sing, serve, pray, etc.). Fold and place them in the jar. Pull the month's strip as a reminder to celebrate Jesus all year long.



DAY 3



Read John 8:12 NlrV

"Jesus spoke to the people again. He said, 'I am the light of the world. Anyone who follows me will never walk in darkness. They will have that light. They will have life.'"

Think about times when life feels dark. Maybe it's arguing with a friend, waking up from a scary dream, or things are difficult at home. Jesus' light still shines in those moments. He promises to stay with you and help you make things right. When you choose to tell the truth, share toys, or say you're sorry, you are walking in His light and helping others see it, too.

You don't need to travel across a desert or ride a camel to find Jesus. You can talk to Jesus. Every good thing is like a spark reminding you that Jesus is near. Stop, thank Him right away, and ask how you can shine that light for someone else. His light always wins, even on the very darkest night.



DAY 4

Read Matthew 2:12 NlrV

"But God warned them in a dream not to go back to Herod. So they returned to their country on a different road."

The wise men didn't stay in Bethlehem forever. After worshiping Jesus, they packed up their camels and headed home on a brand new road. Meeting Jesus changed their lives.

Christmas ends, trees come down, lights get boxed, and school bells ring again, but Jesus goes with us just like He went with the wise men. You can worship Jesus all the time! When math gets hard, worship Jesus. When you are practicing baseball, you can worship and celebrate Jesus. When you're on summer road trips, worship Jesus!

Grab a calendar. Circle one day each month. On those days, plan a special Thank You to God: write a verse, draw a picture, or give away a toy on that day. Twelve circles, twelve mini parties!

"Dear Jesus, thank You for coming to rescue me. Help me find fun ways to celebrate You in every season, sunny, snowy, busy, or quiet. Let my words and choices glorify You. I love You. Amen."