

CHRISTMAS - CELEBRATE THE GOOD NEWS OF JESUS' BIRTH

DAY 1

This week's lesson highlights:

This week, we're looking at Old Testament passages that show Jesus was planned and promised long before He came into the world. These prophecies remind us of God's faithfulness—when God makes a plan, He follows through! Our lesson also highlights how the promise and arrival of Jesus has brought hope to people across different times and places, because Jesus truly is good news for everyone.

After this week's lesson, what's one thing ...

1. YOU LIKED:

2. YOU LEARNED:

3. YOU'D LIKE TO KNOW:

DAY 2

Read Isaiah 9:6–7

Have you ever been in a power outage when every room goes dark? That is how God's people felt before Jesus was born. Life was confusing, and hope seemed burned out. Then God sent the prophet Isaiah with a headline of hope: a child would be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. Isaiah didn't know the baby's name, but he trusted God's promise. Seven hundred years later, the promise lit up parts of Bethlehem when Jesus arrived.

Because we know the end of the story, we can celebrate even when life feels dark. Jesus is good news for everyone. For the kids at your school, neighbors on your street, and people in countries you've never visited. Think of one person who needs the light of Jesus this week. How could you share Jesus' hope? Maybe send an upbeat text, leave a handwritten note, or invite them to church.

FILL IN THE BLANKS UNDER EACH TITLE ISAIAH GAVE:

WONDERFUL _____

MIGHTY _____

EVERLASTING _____

PRINCE OF _____

DAY 3

Read Micah 5:2

Long before the first Christmas, the prophet Micah said the Rescuer would come from Bethlehem, a town so small it barely made the map. Hundreds of years later, Jesus was born there, proving that God's plans never miss. Maybe you feel unnoticed on the team or too young to do big things. Remember Bethlehem.

God sees you and loves using unexpected people and places to share His good news. Jesus came from a small town, but His invitation reaches every corner of the world, including yours. Pick one way to pass that invitation along this week. Small choices, kind words, a listening ear, a prayer, can make a big difference. God turned a stable into a throne room and a manger into a headline. When you trust Him, your life can point others to an amazing hope, and that hope is Jesus.

CREATE A SIMPLE CHRISTMAS CARD TELLING SOMEONE, "JESUS IS GOOD NEWS FOR YOU," AND DELIVER OR MAIL IT!

Read Genesis 12:1–3

You do not need a microphone, a stage, or a million followers. A lunchtime conversation, an encouraging text, praying with a friend, or posting a short video about your faith can pass the baton just as powerfully. Imagine if every believer did that today. How fast would good news circle the globe? The finish line is every heart hearing about Jesus. Ready to run your leg of the race? God runs right alongside you.

Read Luke 2:11

Smile at someone who looks discouraged, pray for a country that God puts on your heart, or even just be nice to your siblings and parents. Your words and actions can point hearts to Jesus.

JESUS, THANK YOU FOR BEING THE BEST NEWS. FILL ME WITH COURAGE, KINDNESS, AND CREATIVITY SO OTHERS SEE YOUR LOVE THROUGH ME. HELP MY LIFE SHOUT YOUR STORY ALL YEAR LONG."

WHAT'S THE BEST NEWS YOU'VE EVER HEARD?

This image shows a single sheet of white paper with horizontal ruling lines. The lines are evenly spaced and run across the width of the page. There are no margins, text, or other markings on the paper.

CHRISTMAS - CELEBRATE THE GOOD NEWS OF JESUS' BIRTH

DAY 1

This week's lesson highlights:

This week's lesson looks at when God's rescue plan was set in motion. God sent angels with amazing news to Zechariah and to an ordinary girl named Mary. While Zechariah couldn't quite believe that he was part of God's plan, Mary chose to humbly accept her role as the mother of God's own Son. No matter how we respond, God's rescue plan can't be stopped. God always had a plan to send Jesus.

After this week's lesson, what's one thing ...

1. YOU LIKED:

2. YOU LEARNED:

3. YOU'D LIKE TO KNOW:

DAY 2

Read Luke 1:26-38

Have your plans ever flipped last second? Maybe you studied math but faced a pop quiz in science. Mary, a teen in Nazareth, expected an ordinary day when the angel Gabriel appeared: she would carry God's Son, Jesus! For centuries, people wondered if God forgot His promise to send a Rescuer. Gabriel proved God's plan was still on schedule. Mary asked, "How?" but didn't say "No." She trusted that if God planned it, He would surely help her live it. Trust grows as we remember that God keeps His promises.

You might face surprises this Christmas or winter break; your travel plans may shift, a friend may move, or a game may be canceled. Instead of panicking, remember Mary. God always planned to send Jesus and still has a good plan for you. Ask God to help you say "Yes" even without all the answers today.

WRITE ONE SURPRISE YOU ARE FACING AND THEN FINISH THE SENTENCE WITH: "I CAN TRUST GOD BECAUSE ..."

////////////////////////////////////

////////////////////////////////////

DAY 3

Read Luke 1:5-25

Have you ever played charades where no words are allowed? That is what happened to Zechariah, a priest serving in Jerusalem's temple. The angel Gabriel appeared and announced that he and his wife Elizabeth would finally have a child, even though they were far too old. Their son, John, would prepare hearts for the promised Rescuer, Jesus. Zechariah doubted, so Gabriel gave him nine months of total silence to think about God's plan.

Imagine having earth-shaking news but no voice to share it! Still, Zechariah's doubt could not stop what God had already scheduled. Zechariah eventually spoke again!

If your plans shift or your prayers feel unanswered this Christmas, remember Zechariah. God's clock never loses a second, and His plans never fail. Your waiting could be the stage where He shows His love in ways just for you.

TAKE A MOMENT TODAY AND ASK GOD TO HELP YOU TRUST HIS SCHEDULE. THEN STAY ALERT FOR SURPRISING ANSWERS HE SENDS.

Read Luke 1:39–45

That tiny kick was announcing, “The Savior is here!” Elizabeth shouted blessings over Mary, and Mary responded with a song of worship still sung today. Joy erupted before the first Christmas lights ever glowed.

WITH YOUR FAMILY, CREATE A "CHRISTMAS PROMISE PLAYLIST." CHOOSE THREE CHRISTMAS SONGS ABOUT JESUS COMING, PLAY THEM THIS WEEK, AND SHARE WHY EACH REMINDS YOU OF HIS PLAN.

Read Luke 1:57–66

Think about all the quiet steps in this chapter:

"GOD, THANK YOU FOR KEEPING EVERY PROMISE. HELP ME PRAISE YOU WHILE I WAIT, TRUST YOUR TIMING, AND SHARE YOUR GOOD NEWS WHEN THE MOMENT COMES."

Spend some time thinking about the question below and journal your thoughts or share them with a parent.

WHAT ARE YOUR PLANS THIS CHRISTMAS?

This image shows a single sheet of white paper with horizontal blue ruling lines. The lines are evenly spaced and run across the width of the page. There are no margins, text, or other markings on the paper.

CHRISTMAS - CELEBRATE THE GOOD NEWS OF JESUS' BIRTH

DAY 1

This week's lesson highlights:

The event everyone has waited for --the arrival of Jesus! God could have sent His Son to be born in the finest palace – but instead, Jesus was born in a place where the animals stayed with a manger as his bed. The birth announcement was pretty dramatic, though – because God sent brilliant angels to declare the news to a group of shepherds in the nearby fields. And once these shepherds saw the baby king, they couldn't help shouting out the good news wherever they went. Jesus is the greatest gift.

After this week's lesson, what's one thing ...

1. YOU LIKED:

2. YOU LEARNED:

3. YOU'D LIKE TO KNOW:

DAY 2

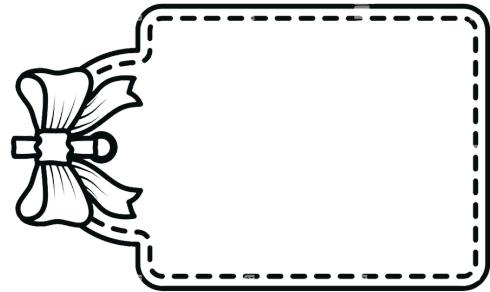
Read Luke 2:1–7

Have you ever unwrapped a present and found something totally surprising—good or bad?

Mary and Joseph's first Christmas was like that. Rome ordered everyone to travel home to be counted, so the couple trekked ninety miles to Bethlehem. There was no cozy guest room they could get in Bethlehem, so God's Son arrived where animals stayed, and His first crib was a manger. Why would the King of everything choose this entrance? Because Jesus didn't come to impress us, He came to rescue us. His humble birth proves God's love reaches from palaces to pastures and everywhere between.

Jesus traded heaven's throne for a place where animals eat out of, so we could trade guilt for forgiveness and fear for hope.

ON THE GIFT TAG, WRITE ONE REASON JESUS IS THE GREATEST GIFT TO YOU.



DAY 3

Read Luke 2:8–14

Picture it: pitch black hills, sheep dozing, shepherds yawning under cold starlight. Suddenly, the sky blazes brighter than noon, and an angel announces, “A Savior has been born to you!” Moments later, an entire army of angels fills the night with music, praising God and promising peace on earth. God did not send this breaking news to palaces or scroll it across royal courts; He chose ordinary workers to hear the good news first. That choice proves again that Jesus is the greatest gift for everyone, whatever their grades or zip code.

Why did Jesus come? His rescue plan was to bridge the gap between a perfect God and hurting people, to trade our guilt for forgiveness, and to replace fear with hope. This Christmas, give thanks for the Baby swaddled in cloths

instead of wrapped in gold. Let gratitude burst out like the angels' song—loud, joyful, unstoppable.

Before the day ends, tell someone, “The best gift has already arrived, and He came for you.”

DAY 4

Read Luke 2:15–18

Imagine you are one of the shepherds, yawning under cold stars, when your sky suddenly explodes with light. That's what happened to the shepherds after the angels left. They could have doubted the message, but they said, "Let's go!" and hurried into Bethlehem. There they found Mary, Joseph, and the newborn Jesus lying in a manger exactly as promised. Seeing the greatest gift with their own eyes filled them with unstoppable joy. They ran to tell everyone, turning sleepy streets into a headline of hope.

Why did Jesus come? To rescue us, bring us back to God, and prove His love is for everyone—from palace guests to night shift shepherds to kids like you. This Christmas, remember the shepherds' rush. Good news isn't meant to stay wrapped up; it's meant to be shared. You can text a friend, share a verse, or post a quick voice note today explaining why Christmas really matters most.

Wrap an empty box like a present, attach a tag that says "Jesus, the greatest gift," and place it in your home to remind everyone why we celebrate.

DAY 5

Read Luke 2:19-20

Imagine the shepherds trudging back to their hills after meeting baby Jesus, the same night sky overhead, the same flocks bleating, yet their hearts were blazing with brand new hope. God's greatest gift had arrived in a manger. Jesus came to mend the broken relationship between God and people, proving we matter to Him more than any treasure we could ever unwrap.

Look for ways to echo the shepherds, share one reason you're grateful with family, sing a carol, or help someone who feels left out. Let praise travel wherever you go.

"JESUS, YOU ARE THE BEST GIFT EVER. FILL MY WORDS AND CHOICES WITH PRAISE SO OTHERS HEAR HOW AMAZING YOU ARE."

JOURNAL

Spend some time thinking about the question below and journal your thoughts or share them with a parent.

WHAT'S THE BEST GIFT YOU'VE BEEN GIVEN?

This image shows a single sheet of white paper with horizontal ruling lines. The lines are evenly spaced and run across the width of the page. There are no margins, text, or other markings on the paper.

CHRISTMAS - CELEBRATE THE GOOD NEWS OF JESUS' BIRTH

DAY 1

This week's lesson highlights:

We wrap up the month with the wise men and their visit to Jesus. These important scholars lived far to the East of Bethlehem, but that's no problem for God. In fact, God placed a brand-new star in the sky to spread the news of Jesus' birth and guide the wise men straight to the new king. The wise men gave Jesus royal gifts and returned home – where you can bet they celebrated their incredible adventure for the rest of the year... and the rest of their lives! Celebrate Jesus all year long.

After this week's lesson, what's one thing ...

1. YOU LIKED:

2. YOU LEARNED:

3. YOU'D LIKE TO KNOW:

DAY 2

Read Matthew 2:1-2, 9-12

Long before phones or TV, God used a star as breaking news. Wise men noticed it and left home on a very long trip. Through scorching deserts, chilly nights, and sand in their sandals, they kept going because the star said, "A King has come!" When they finally reached Jesus, he was no longer a baby, but a toddler. They knelt, worshiped, and offered gifts fit for royalty.

Think about the calendar ahead. Winter snow, spring flowers, summer games, fall colors, every season gives a reason to honor the King who never changes. You can

celebrate Jesus by thanking Him for hot cocoa warmth, sharing a soccer win with humility, or helping rake a neighbor's leaves. Each act says, "Jesus matters right now." Don't wait for Christmas lights to sparkle before you rejoice. Let God's love shine through you all year long.

GRAB A PIECE OF PAPER AND DRAW A CIRCLE WITH FOUR SECTIONS, ONE FOR EACH SEASON—WINTER, SPRING, SUMMER, FALL. IN EACH SECTION, WRITE ONE WAY YOU WILL CELEBRATE JESUS DURING THAT SEASON.

DAY 3

Read Matthew 2:3-8

The wise men arrived in King Herod's palace expecting to meet a newborn king, but Scripture pointed them to tiny Bethlehem instead. After seeing Jesus, God warned them in a dream not to return to Herod, so they went home by a different road. They went a different route when God told them to.

This was quick obedience. Worship isn't only singing or giving gifts; it's listening and obeying when God tells you to. Maybe God nudges you to sit with a lonely student, apologize first after an argument, or skip gossip that hurts someone's reputation.

Those "different roads" can feel awkward, yet each obedient step says, "Jesus is my King." Think of next year as just the beginning—the beginning of following God and obeying Him. When someone asks why you live that way, you can report the best news: "Jesus guides my steps."

DESIGN A MINI "GOOD NEWS" NEWSPAPER FRONT PAGE. ADD TODAY'S DATE, A BOLD HEADLINE ABOUT JESUS, AND A SHORT ARTICLE EXPLAINING ONE WAY YOU'LL FOLLOW HIS GUIDANCE THIS WEEK.

Read Matthew 2:9–11

When you choose patience with a sibling, that is a gift. When you practice a song for church or share lunch with someone new, you lay another present at His feet.

WHAT ARE SOME EVERYDAY ACTIONS YOU CAN GIVE JESUS THIS WEEK? WRITE THEM DOWN HERE.

#####

[illegible]

#####

Read Luke 2:11

December may end, but the news doesn't. Jesus still rescues, guides, and invites you into His story. Every season is a new edition of celebration you get to live and share.

"JESUS, THANK YOU FOR BEING THE GOOD NEWS THAT NEVER EXPIRES. HELP ME REMEMBER YOUR LOVE, TRUST YOUR PLAN, AND CELEBRATE YOU WITH MY WORDS AND ACTIONS EVERY SINGLE DAY."

JOURNAL

Spend some time thinking about the question below and journal your thoughts or share them with a parent.

HOW CAN YOU CELEBRATE JESUS THROUGHOUT THE YEAR?

This image shows a single sheet of cream-colored paper with horizontal ruling lines. The lines are evenly spaced and run across the width of the page. There is no text or other markings on the paper.