





# The BIBLE Story

## Jesus Was Born

Luke 2

Mary and Joseph lived in the town of Nazareth. **When Mary was pregnant with Baby Jesus**, a ruler named Caesar Augustus wanted a list of all the people who were living in the land. He sent out an order:

“Everyone must return to his hometown to be counted!” Since

**Joseph** was part of King David’s family, he **and Mary traveled to Bethlehem**, the city of David.

While **they** were there, Mary was ready to have her baby. Mary and Joseph **looked for a safe place to stay, but every place was full. So Mary and Joseph found a place where animals were kept, and that is where Mary had her baby. Joseph named the baby Jesus. Mary wrapped Him in cloth and laid Him in a manger.**

**That night, some shepherds were watching their sheep out in the fields. All of a sudden, an angel stood before them. A bright light shone around the shepherds, and they were scared!**

But **the angel said**, “Do not be afraid! I have good news for you: **Today a Savior, who is the Messiah and the Lord, was born for you** in the city of David.” Then the angel said, “**Go find the baby. He will be wrapped in cloth and lying in a manger.**”

**Suddenly, many angels appeared. They praised God and said**, “**Glory to God in the highest heaven, and peace on earth to people He favors!**”

When the angels left, **the shepherds hurried to Bethlehem to find Baby Jesus. They found Him, and then they told others about Him. Everyone who heard about Jesus was surprised and amazed.** Jesus’ mother, Mary, thought about everything that happened and tried to understand it. The shepherds went back to their fields. They praised God because **everything had happened just like the angel had said.**

*Christ Connection: Jesus was born! This was very good news! Jesus was not like other babies. Jesus is God’s Son. God sent Jesus to earth from heaven. Jesus came into the world to rescue people from their sins.*

## review

Serve sugar cookies with frosting and sprinkles as snack. Show a child how to spread frosting on her cookie with a craft stick. Guide a child to add red or green sprinkles to the top. Mention that today’s snack is often served at Christmas, the time when we celebrate that Jesus, God’s Son, was born. Remind preschoolers that **Jesus was born to rescue people from sin.**

Show the Bible story picture as you ask the following questions. Retell parts of the Bible story as needed.

1. Where did Joseph and Mary travel when she was pregnant with Baby Jesus? (*to Bethlehem*)
2. Where did Joseph and Mary stay in Bethlehem? (*in a place where animals were kept*)
3. Who appeared to the shepherds? (*an angel, angels*)
4. What was the angel’s message? (*Today a Savior was born for you. Go find the baby.*)
5. **Is Jesus God or a human? Jesus is both fully God and fully human.**

## Bible Storytelling Tips

### • Tell the story with manger scene figures:

Use the figures from a manger scene set as you tell the Bible story.

### • Dress up and play out:

Provide Bible times clothes and allow children to dress up. Assign roles and lead preschoolers to play out the Bible story as you tell it.



## big picture question

# Is Jesus God or a human?

Jesus is both  
fully God and  
fully human.

Big Picture Question • Preschool • Unit 19 • © 2019 LifeWay OK to Print

## key passage

In the beginning was the  
Word, and the Word was  
with God, and the Word  
was God.

John 1:1

Key Passage (NIV) • Preschool • Unit 19 • © 2019 LifeWay OK to Print

## extra activities

### Count items

Gather several sheets of paper and invite a child to count to discover how many pieces of paper there are. Suggest children count other items in the classroom. Count crayons or pairs of scissors. Count books on a shelf or chairs in the classroom. Count Bibles or blocks. Suggest a child count the boys and girls who have come to class.

**SAY** • When Mary was pregnant with Baby Jesus, the ruler wanted to know how many people were in his kingdom, so he made everyone travel to his hometown to be counted. Mary and Joseph traveled to Bethlehem. Listen to the Bible story to hear what happened while they were in Bethlehem.

### Find the baby

Ask boys and girls to cover their eyes while you hide a doll in the classroom. Allow children to search until they find the baby. Alter the game by allowing a child to hide the doll or by adding additional dolls. Hide and find illustrated Bibles; look at a picture depicting Jesus' birth. Recall parts of the Bible story. Remind preschoolers that the angel told the shepherds to go to Bethlehem to find Baby Jesus.

**SAY** • The shepherds were watching the sheep one night when they were surprised by an angel. The angel told them the Savior had been born. The shepherds went to Bethlehem and found the Baby lying in a manger wrapped in cloth. Baby **Jesus was born to rescue people from sin**, just as God promised. Everyone who heard the shepherd's news was surprised and amazed.

### Shine a light

Write each word of the story point on index cards and randomly tape them around the room. Provide flashlights for boys and girls to shine. Dim the lights and guide children to shine flashlights at each word of the story point in order. Continue shining lights on each word, increasing your speed each time. Recall the Bible story as children play. Suggest a child shine a light on other items in the classroom. Open a Bible and shine a light on John 1:1. Read it.

**SAY** • Our key passage tells us that Jesus is God. Jesus is God's Word come down to earth. Jesus' birth was very good news! Jesus was not like other babies. Jesus is God the Son. God sent Jesus to earth from heaven. **Jesus was born to rescue people from sin.**



# Find What Is Hiding

**INSTRUCTIONS:** Use the key to find and circle the hidden items.



Preschool Activity Pages

Unit 19 • Session 3

**Jesus Was Born**

## **BIBLE STORY SUMMARY:**

- Joseph and Mary traveled to Bethlehem.
- Mary had Baby Jesus.
- Angels appeared to shepherds, and the shepherds went to find Jesus.
- Jesus was born to rescue people from sin.

**KEY PASSAGE:** John 1:1

## **BIG PICTURE QUESTION:**

- Is Jesus God or a human? Jesus is both fully God and fully human.

## **FAMILY DISCUSSION STARTERS:**

- What did the shepherds do when they found Baby Jesus?
- What made Baby Jesus different from all other babies?
- Why did God send Jesus into the world?

## **FAMILY ACTIVITY:**

- Invite each family member to share a memory from a past Christmas. Talk about the meaning of Christmas and why we should celebrate Jesus' birth year round.
- Visit a farm or a petting zoo with another family. Talk about how unusual it was for Jesus to be born in a place where animals were kept.



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