

JESUS WAS BORN

LIFE POINT: God sent Jesus.

LEADER BIBLE STUDY



LEVEL OF BIBLICAL LEARNING

God sent Jesus to earth.

BIBLE PASSAGE

Luke 2:1-20

WEEKLY VERSE

Good news! Jesus was born.

Luke 2:10-11

UNIT VERSE

Good news! Jesus was born.

Luke 2:10-11

SUGGESTED DATES:

weeks of
December 18, 25

Around 6 B.C., the Roman Emperor, Caesar Augustus, ordered a census to be taken of everyone in his empire. The census was to determine how much he could make in taxes. For that reason, Joseph and Mary left Nazareth to travel to his familial home in Bethlehem. While there, Mary gave birth to Jesus. Since they were not staying at a regular inn, they used a feeding trough as Jesus' bed.

The scene shifts to the Judean hills where shepherds tended their flocks. Suddenly, an angel appeared and terrified them. The angel comforted them and heralded the good news of the birth of the Messiah. Have you ever wondered why God chose to announce the Savior's birth *first* to lowly shepherds? Why didn't He initially inform the high priests, kings, or philosophers? Those would be the most natural audiences to address, wouldn't they?

Perhaps God told the shepherds first because of the type of king Jesus was going to become. Jesus did not come to be a political or military ruler. Possibly, because of the type of people the shepherds represented, the shepherds were the first to hear. The shepherds were common people for whom Jesus came to give His life. Shepherds were despised as morally and ritually unclean. Despite their social standing, Jesus' birth and kingdom was not only for them but for *all* people.

The shepherds visited Jesus after multitudes of angels announced, "Glory to God in the highest!" _____

What does Mary's being in Bethlehem at Jesus' birth teach about the providence of God? _____

What did the shepherds do after they returned from seeing Jesus? Why?

BIBLE STORY

Pick and choose which activities you wish to use to support the Bible story over a two-week period.

JESUS WAS BORN

Long ago, Joseph and Mary traveled to a little town called Bethlehem. There was no room in the inn, so Mary and Joseph rested in a stable. While they were there, Jesus was born. Mary wrapped Baby Jesus in soft cloths and placed Him in a manger.

An angel appeared to shepherds in the field. The angel said, "Do not be afraid. I have good news for everyone. Tonight in Bethlehem, a Savior was born who is Christ the Lord. You will find Him wrapped in soft cloths and lying in a manger."

The shepherds went quickly to find the baby. When the shepherds saw Baby Jesus, they were filled with joy. They praised God for all they had seen. They went to tell everyone they had seen the child.

— BASED ON LUKE 2:1-20



PICTURE/WORD CARDS

Note that picture/word cards may be gathered from Kids Activity Page 31 or Pack Item 38.

Bible Story Note

The Bible story printed on the back of each Pack Item Teaching Picture is intended for 3s-Pre-K. Find the Special Buddies story on this page and on Kids Activity Pages 7 and 10.

NOTE: Downloadable versions of items identified as *CD* are available in the Music and Print Extras Bundle. Items identified as *DVD* are available in the Digital Video Bundle.

Additional training for Bible Studies for Life: Kids available at ministrygrid.com/web/biblestudiesforlife.

INTRODUCTORY ACTIVITY



- Study Bible or Bible dictionary: map that shows both Nazareth and Bethlehem

► Find Bethlehem on a Map Week 1 ___ Week 2 ___

Remind children that Mary and Joseph lived in Nazareth. Mention that Mary and Joseph traveled to Bethlehem, where Jesus was born. Point out the locations of Nazareth and Bethlehem on the map. Explain that most people in Bible times walked when they were on a journey. The Bible does not say, but Mary may have ridden on the back of a donkey.

- Photos of adults in the church or of children in the class, as babies; tape

► Guess Who? Week 1 ___ Week 2 ___

Gather baby photos of adults in the church that kids would know, or of the children themselves. Post the baby pictures on a focal wall.

Invite children to guess who they think each picture might be. Mention that Jesus was a special baby who was born to Mary and Joseph.

STUDY THE BIBLE



- DVD

► Watch the Video Week 1 ___ Week 2 ___

Use the “Jesus Was Born: Life Action” video to introduce the Bible story or to review it at the end of the session.

- Pack Item 16: “Book: *Jesus Was Born*”

► Share the Story Week 1 ___ Week 2 ___

Use the book as a visual as you tell the Bible story. Flip through the pages that illustrate Isaiah writing about the birth of a special baby and the angel telling Mary and Joseph that Jesus would be born. Spend more time on the pages about Jesus’ birth. Indicate that God kept His promise to send His Son. For review, make the book available throughout the session so that children may enjoy retelling the stories to one another.

- Teaching Picture 2
- Kids Activity Page 8
- CD: “Allergy Alert”
- Straw, string of twinkling Christmas lights, baby doll, white scraps of cloth or a towel

► Recreate the Stable Setting Week 1 ___ Week 2 ___

Recreate what it might have looked like inside the stable in Bethlehem. Post the allergy alert sign to indicate the use of straw. Scatter the straw on the floor. Hang the twinkling lights to represent stars. Dim the lights. Wrap a doll in white cloth scraps or a towel.

Hold the wrapped baby doll as you tell the Bible story. Show the Teaching Picture. Give children an opportunity to hold the baby. For review, lead children to find Baby Jesus and His family on the Kids Activity Page. Talk about other things children see in the picture on the Kids Activity Page.

► Use a Nativity Scene Week 1 ____ Week 2 ____

Display a Nativity scene with Mary, Joseph, Baby Jesus, the angel, shepherds, and sheep or other animals. Gather the K-W-L chart from last week.

Hold your Bible open to Luke 2 as you tell the Bible story. Show the Teaching Picture.

For review, invite children to name each person in the Nativity scene and give you a brief explanation of that person's role in the events surrounding Jesus' birth.

✱ Challenge: Make further connections on the K-W-L chart, adding information children have learned or would still like to know.

- Teaching Picture 2
- Nativity scene, previously used K-W-L chart, markers

► Unwrap the Story Week 1 ____ Week 2 ____

Cut 2-inch squares of Christmas wrapping paper and secure them to the Teaching Picture with removable adhesive labels.

Open your Bible to Luke 2. As you tell the story, remove one square at a time to reveal more and more of the picture. When you are finished telling the story, cover the Teaching Picture with a solid sheet of paper and ask children to remember and describe the hidden image. As time allows, allow children to draw their own image of the scene at the manger.

- Teaching Picture 2
- Solid-colored Christmas wrap, cut into 2-inch squares; removable adhesive labels; drawing paper; crayons

► Show Pictures Week 1 ____ Week 2 ____

Cut apart the pictures of the outdoor scene and the stable scene, as well as the two different Mary and Joseph pictures and the pictures of the shepherds and sheep.

Hold your Bible open to Luke 2 as you tell the Bible story. Show the outdoor scene when you say that Mary and Joseph traveled to Bethlehem. Place the picture of Mary, Joseph, and the donkey in front of the outdoor scene. Comment that the trip was probably very long and tiring for Mary, who was soon to have a baby. When you describe the stable and explain that Jesus was born there, show the stable scene. Place the picture of Mary, Joseph, and Baby Jesus in front of the stable scene. Finally, add the pictures of the shepherds and the sheep. For review, ask questions.

- Mary and Joseph traveled before Jesus was born. Where did they go? (*Bethlehem*)
- Where did Mary and Joseph rest? (*stable*)
- Who was born while they were in Bethlehem? (*Jesus*)
- Who told the shepherds that a Savior had been born? (*angel*)
- How did the shepherds feel when they had seen the child? (*joyful*)
- Who did the shepherds tell about Baby Jesus? (*everyone*)

- Pack Items 18a-b, 19a-b: "Jesus' Birth Stand-Up Figures," "Jesus' Birth Time Line"
- Scissors, tape
- **Note:** After the activity, save the Stand-Up Figures for later use.

PRACTICE BIBLE SKILLS

► Unwrap a Verse Week 1 ___ Week 2 ___

► Pack Item 14: "Unit Verse Markers"

► Index cards, marker, small gift boxes, gift wrap, tape

Prior to the session, write each separate word of Luke 2:10-11 on an index card, place it inside a gift box, and wrap the box.

Suggest children use their Bibles to locate Luke 2:10-11. This verse tells the importance of the Christmas story. Invite a child to unwrap each box to find a word from the verse. Work together to put the words in the correct order. Ask: "What was the good news?" Children should answer: "Jesus was born!" Repeat this several times as a call and response.

► Share a Verse Week 1 ___ Week 2 ___

► CD: "Weekly Verse Markers"

Print copies of the Luke 2:10-11 Bible Marker, one per child.

Lead children to locate Luke 2:10-11 in their Bibles. Give each child a Bible Marker to save the place. Suggest children close their Bibles. Guide them to form a circle. Repeat the verse in unison several times aloud: *Good news! Jesus was born.* Whisper the first word of the verse to one child. Suggest he whisper the word to the friend sitting next to him, who will do the same to the next friend. The last child to hear the word should say the word aloud. Begin again by whispering the next word to a different child, and repeat the entire process until the entire verse has been whispered. Invite anyone to try to say the entire verse. Take turns doing so, or say the entire verse together. Emphasize that the news of Jesus' birth was the best news ever!

► Picture/word cards: "Bible"

► Find a Bible Week 1 ___ Week 2 ___

Prior to the session, gather three "Bible" picture/word cards. Tape each card to the back of a different chair.

Tell children that you have taped a picture of a Bible to the backs of three chairs. Instruct children to look on their chairs to see if they can find one of the pictures. Lead each child who finds a picture to name an Old Testament book. Gather the pictures, ask the kids to close their eyes, and place the cards on the backs of three different chairs for a second round. This time, ask each child who finds a picture to say the name of a New Testament book. As time allows, play additional rounds in which children must name one of the four Gospels or identify specific books as either Old Testament or New Testament. Invite children to use their Bibles for reference at any time during the game.

LIVE IT OUT



► Trace the Dots Week 1 ___ Week 2 ___

Give each child a copy of the Kids Activity Page. Ask children to identify the picture on the page. (*Baby Jesus*) Suggest children trace the dots to find out who sent Jesus. Use the “God” picture/word card as a visual to teach children sign language for the word *God*. Lead children to thank God for sending Jesus.

- Kids Activity Page 9
- Pencils
- Picture/word card: “God”

► Send Postcards Week 1 ___ Week 2 ___

Gather postcards. Pre-print labels that say Good news! God sent Jesus.

Invite each child to share the good news of Jesus’ birth with a friend by giving or sending a postcard. Each child may print the message of good news, or peel and stick a pre-printed label. Guide each child to sign his name on the card. Encourage children to give or mail the cards to their friends. Be prepared to inform parents or caregivers if any card needs to be addressed and mailed. Cards may also be sent to children who were absent from church today. Play “Come and Worship Him” (track 1) as children write their cards.

- CD, CD player
- Postcards, white adhesive labels, pen
- Bible Studies For Life: Kids Jesus Was Born! Postcards (005787484) at www.lifeway.com/kids (optional)

CLOSING ACTIVITY

► Reach Into the Gift Bag Week 1 ___ Week 2 ___

Gather a “Jesus” picture/word card. Place it in a gift bag.

Pray together, thanking God for the gift of His Son, Jesus. Ask God to provide opportunities to tell others about Jesus. Invite each child to reach into the bag as he exits the room. As he looks at the picture/word card, say: “God sent Jesus.” Tell the child to drop the card back into the bag for the next child to find.

- Gift bag
- Picture/word card: “Jesus”

► Give a Card Week 1 ___ Week 2 ___

Cut apart the set of cards that depict Mary, Joseph, and Jesus in the stable.

Give each child an illustrated card. Say: “Good news! Jesus was born.” If additional cards remain, allow each child to take an extra card to share with a friend or family member. Explain that the good news of Jesus’ birth is something to be shared.

- Pack Item 21b: “Pictures for Christmas Ornaments: Jesus Was Born”
- Scissors

► One Conversation™ Week 1 ___ Week 2 ___

Distribute the Kids Activity Page to encourage families to complete the One Conversation™ activity at home.

- Kids Activity Page 10

BONUS ACTIVITIES

Sing a Happy Christmas Song Week 1__ Week 2 __

Use each bulleted statement as the first line of a song to tell the story of Jesus' birth, sung to the tune and in the format of "If You're Happy and You Know It":

- No advance preparation needed.

- If you're the angel and you know it, say "Rejoice!"
- If you're the star and you know it, shine so bright.
- If you're Mary and you know it, rock the baby.
- If you're Joseph and you know it, smile and pray.
- If you're a shepherd and you know it, jump for joy.
- If you're a donkey and you know it, say "Hee-haw."
- If you're a cow and you know it, say "Moo, moo."

- CD: "Allergy Alert"

- Plastic tub (shoe box size), straw or brown crinkle paper, items to place in the tub (pieces of cloth; toy animals such as cows, sheep, and donkeys; angel ornament; star ornament; Nativity scene figures of Mary, Joseph, Jesus, and shepherds)

Explore a Nativity Sensory Bin Week 1__ Week 2 __

Fill a plastic tub with straw or brown crinkle paper. Place the items listed at left in the box. Post the allergy alert if you use real straw.

Allow time for children to explore the box. As children enjoy finding items, play "Celebrate (Ring the Bells)" (track 3). Invite children to identify the pieces they find inside the box. Talk about each item as you review the Bible story. Thank God for sending Jesus to be born.

Was It a Silent Night? Week 1__ Week 2 __

Gather a recording of "Silent Night" (optional).

Play a recording or sing "Silent Night" as a group. Invite children to close their eyes and imagine what that night might have been like. What sounds do you think Mary and Joseph heard in the stable? What smells do you think they smelled? What sights do you think they saw? Decide if kids think it actually was a silent night. Comment that, no matter what sounds, sights, and smells were around the stable that night, it was the most special night the world had ever known, because Jesus was born.

Dramatize the Story Week 1__ Week 2 __

Help the children to dress up in Bible times clothing and dramatize the Bible story. Travel to different parts of room as you tell the Bible story. Ask questions that help children consider the way Mary and Joseph might have felt. Mention that Mary and Joseph walked many miles on a dusty, rocky road. Take pictures of the children as they play out the story. Share the pictures with the children or email the images to parents after the session.

- Bible times robes, sashes, and headpieces; doll wrapped in a blanket; digital camera

Paint the Good News Week 1__ Week 2 __

Gather white paper, dark blue paint, and white paint. Also gather Christmas cards of the Nativity. Cut the cards to remove the printed greeting.

Print each child's name on the back of a sheet of paper. Demonstrate for children how to cover the paper with dark blue paint. Suggest kids are painting what the sky might have looked like on the night Jesus was born. Set aside the papers to dry. When the papers are dry, let each child add light swirls of white paint to the page to give the appearance of the dark sky beginning to lighten into day. Set the papers aside to dry once more. Finally, lead each child to glue a picture of the Nativity scene onto his paper. If you don't have Nativity scene cards, use "Jesus" picture/word cards. Lead children to say: "Good news! Jesus was born." Encourage children to take their paintings home as a wonderful reminder of Jesus' birth.

- White construction paper, dark blue paint, white paint, marker, paintbrushes, smocks for covering clothing, Christmas cards with the Nativity scene on the front, scissors, glue
- Picture/word cards: "Jesus" (optional)

Tell the About the Wise Men Week 1__ Week 2 __

Comment that the story of Jesus was just beginning when He was born in Bethlehem. Use the Teaching Picture and the text on the back to tell children the story about the wise men's visit to worship Jesus. When the wise men came, Jesus was a young boy living in a house with his parents. As time allows, follow the directions on the pack items to lead children to make a star ornament to hang on a Christmas tree.

- Teaching Picture 4
- Pack Items 21b, 22: "Pictures for Christmas Ornaments: Wise Men Visited Jesus," "Star Pattern"
- Card stock, poster board, marker, yarn, scissors, glue

Hold a Shepherd's Staff Week 1__ Week 2 __

Locate a cane with a curved handle. Gather the picture of shepherds holding staffs from the pack item.

Invite each child to handle the cane and look at the picture of the shepherds. Comment that a shepherd's staff was probably larger than this cane, noting that the staffs the shepherds are holding in the picture are as tall as the men themselves. Talk about ways shepherds might have used their staffs. *(to walk on rocky hills and fields, to hook a falling lamb, to guide lambs that are wandering away)*

- Pack Item 18b: "Jesus' Birth Stand-Up Figures: shepherds"
- Cane with curved handle

Emphasize Missions Week 1__ Week 2 __

Show the video "Cattle Call" or point out one or more photos on the "Missions Pictures" page. Invite children to play with toy vehicles. Comment that sometimes Grant Waller rides in a helicopter to get to the Mahafaly villages. Pray that missionaries in Madagascar will be safe as they travel to tell Bible stories to the Mahafaly people.

- DVD—Click on the missions tab on the DVD menu to find the video "Cattle Call."
- CD: "Missions Pictures"
- Toy vehicles

Use the Coloring Page Week 1__ Week 2 __

Print the Coloring Page. Review the Bible story as children color.

- CD: "Jesus Was Born" Coloring Page
- Crayons or colored pencils



ANGELS TOLD ABOUT JESUS

MATTHEW 1:18-24; LUKE 1:26-56 • TEACHING PICTURE 2

ANGELS TOLD ABOUT JESUS

—Based on Matthew 1:18-24; Luke 1:26-56

Mary was a young woman who obeyed God and lived in Nazareth. God sent the angel Gabriel to talk to her.

The angel said, "Do not be afraid. God chose you to have a special baby boy, God's Son." He told her people had waited for this baby since Isaiah wrote about God's plan.

Gabriel said, "Your relative Elizabeth, who is very old, will also have a son. God can do things that people think are impossible."

Mary said, "I will obey God."

Mary was going to marry a man named Joseph. Joseph also obeyed God.

As Joseph was sleeping, God sent an angel to him in a dream. The angel told Joseph, "Do not be afraid to marry Mary. Her baby is God's Son. You will name Him Jesus. He will love people and teach them about God."

Joseph remembered the dream when he woke up. He did as the angel commanded. Joseph married Mary. They waited for the special baby, Jesus, to be born.

UNIT VERSE: Good news! Jesus was born. *Luke 2:10-11*

WEEKLY VERSE: You will give birth to a son and call Him Jesus. *Luke 1:31*

LIFE POINT: God chose Mary and Joseph to be Jesus' parents.

GROUP TIME

Sing a song and pray. Play "God Gave a Baby to Me" (track 2). Encourage children to sing along. Pray, thanking God for happy Christmastime.

Tell the Bible story. Open your Bible to Luke. Remind the children that Isaiah wrote that God promised to send His Son, Jesus.

Review the Bible story. Put Bible times headpieces on two girls to be Mary and Elizabeth and on a boy who will be Joseph. Place a white costume on another boy who can be Gabriel. Retell the Bible story and let the four children play it out. Ask the children questions such as "Who talked to Mary? What did the angel say to Joseph?"

Learn a Bible Verse. Open the Bible to the Weekly Verse Marker and read the verse. Pass the Teaching Picture around the group as you repeat the verse again.

Look at a time line. Place in the group-time area the "Jesus' Birth Time Line" with Isaiah in the first section. Place Mary and Joseph in the next section of the time line.

Play a game. Send two or three children at a time to find an ornament hidden in the room and bring it back to place it on the tree poster. Continue until all the ornaments are found.

Wrap it up. Show the "Angels Told About Jesus: Life Action" video. Talk about the family God chose for Baby Jesus.



JESUS WAS BORN
LUKE 2:1-20 • TEACHING PICTURE 3

JESUS WAS BORN

—Based on Luke 2:1-20

While Mary and Joseph waited for Jesus to be born, the leader of their country decided to count all the people in the land. He told every person to go to their hometown to be counted.

Joseph's hometown was Bethlehem, so Mary traveled to Bethlehem with him. Bethlehem was crowded, and they could not find a place to stay.

Finally they found a place to stay. That night Baby Jesus was born. They wrapped Him in soft cloths and laid Him in a manger which is a box of hay.

Nearby, shepherds were watching their sheep. An angel appeared and said, "Do not be afraid. I bring you good news! A baby was born in Bethlehem. He is God's Son. You will find Him lying in a manger."

Many angels appeared. They praised God and said, "Glory to God in heaven and peace on earth!"

The angels left, and the shepherds decided to go to Bethlehem and see the baby. They found Mary and Joseph and the baby, too. They praised God for Baby Jesus.

UNIT VERSE: Good news! Jesus was born. *Luke 2:10-11*

WEEKLY VERSE: Good news! Jesus was born. *Luke 2:10-11*

LIFE POINT: God sent Jesus.

GROUP TIME

Move to music. Play "Celebrate (Ring the Bells)" (track 3) as preschoolers hold hands and walk around in a circle. Lead them to raise their hands as they move into the circle and then lower their hands as they move back out and begin to walk around again.

Tell the Bible story. Open your Bible to the Book of Luke. Comment that Isaiah told the people of Jerusalem that God would send His Son. Point to the time line and the stand-up figure of Isaiah writing. Comment that last week we heard about the angels that told Mary and Joseph about Jesus' birth. Today we will hear about Jesus' birth!

Review the Bible story. Give children the stand-up figures of Mary, Joseph, and Jesus; the shepherds; and the sheep. Briefly retell the Bible story as the children add the figures to the manger area of the time line.

Think about the Bible story. Show the Teaching Picture and ask about the Bible story: "What would you see around a manger? What would you hear? How would it smell?"

Learn the Bible Verse and pray. Give each child one half of a Christmas card puzzle and let him find the child with the matching puzzle piece. Encourage children to say the Bible Verse to each other. Pray, thanking God for sending Jesus as a baby.

Wrap it up. Show the "Jesus Was Born: Life Action" video. Comment that people had waited a long time for Jesus. We still celebrate His birth at Christmastime.



WISE MEN VISITED JESUS

MATTHEW 2:1-12 • TEACHING PICTURE 4

WISE MEN VISITED JESUS

—Based on Matthew 2:1-12

In eastern countries, there were wise men who studied the stars. They saw a special star appear in the sky. They believed it showed the birth of an important baby. They followed the star to Jerusalem looking for this important baby.

In Jerusalem, King Herod heard the wise men asking about the special baby. The king gathered the smartest people of Jerusalem. They said prophets wrote that a special baby would be born in Bethlehem.

Herod told the wise men. He asked them to report back and tell him where they found the baby. Herod said he wanted to see Jesus, too.

The wise men from the east continued to follow the star. The star stopped over a house where Jesus was living with Mary and Joseph.

The wise men were very happy to see Jesus. They bowed down and worshiped Him. They gave Him expensive gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh.

The wise men were warned in a dream not to tell King Herod where they found Jesus, so they went home another way.

UNIT VERSE: Good news! Jesus was born. *Luke 2:10-11*

WEEKLY VERSE: The wise men worshiped Jesus.
Matthew 2:11

LIFE POINT: Jesus was a special child.

GROUP TIME

Move to music. Play “Good News” (track 4) as preschoolers move around the room. Give each child a bell shaker or bracelet and encourage children to shake the bells as they listen and move. Gather the bells as you transition to the Bible story.

Tell the Bible story. Open your Bible to Matthew 2. Tell the children that Matthew is the first book in the New Testament and tells about Jesus’ life. Comment that today we will hear about some special visitors who came to see Jesus. Tell today’s Bible story.

Review the Bible story and Bible Verses. Review the Bible stories for this unit with the Jesus’ Birth Time Line. Add Isaiah to the time line. Remind children that Isaiah wrote about Jesus’ birth many years before Jesus was really born. Add the Mary and Joseph figure and ask who told Mary and Joseph that Baby Jesus would be born. Choose several children to add the manger scene figures. Ask questions to review the Bible story of Jesus’ birth. Show the Teaching Picture. Add the wise men, camels, and child Jesus figures. Review the story of the wise men with questions like “What did the wise men see in the sky? Why did they follow it? Where did they find Jesus? What did they do when they found Jesus?” Review the Unit and Weekly Bible Verses.

Pray together. Pray, thanking God for planning for Jesus’ birth and for Christmas.

Wrap it up. Show the “Wise Men Visited Jesus: Life Action” video. Talk about the promises God made to His people.

**Good news!
Jesus was born.**

— LUKE 2:10-11

JESUS WAS BORN

BASED ON LUKE 2:1-20



Long ago, Joseph and Mary traveled to a little town called Bethlehem. There was no room in the inn, so Mary and Joseph rested in a stable. While they were there, Jesus was born. Mary wrapped Baby Jesus in soft cloths and placed Him in a manger.

An angel appeared to shepherds in the field. The angel said, "Do not be afraid. I have good news for everyone. Tonight in Bethlehem, a Savior was born who is Christ the Lord. You will find Him wrapped in soft cloths and lying in a manger."

The shepherds went quickly to find the baby. When the shepherds saw Baby Jesus, they were filled with joy. They praised God for all they had seen. They went to tell everyone they had seen the child.

Find the Stable

There was no room in the inn, so Jesus was born in a stable. Find Baby Jesus and His family.



Trace the Dots

Trace the dots to see who sent Jesus.

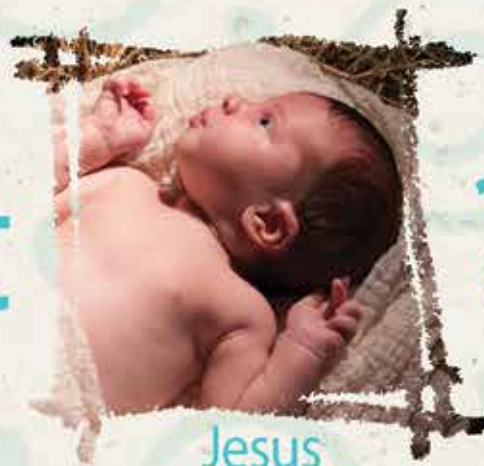
Good news!



Jesus

was born.

Who sent



Jesus

?

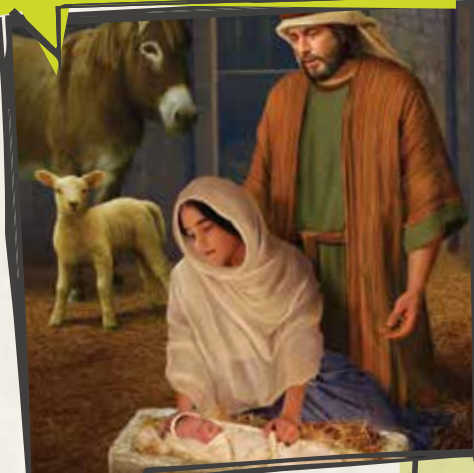


THE BIBLE MEETS LIFE: Parents, your child learned that Jesus was born. Angels announced the birth to the shepherds who then came to see the special child. They knew He had been sent by God.



LEVEL OF BIBLICAL LEARNING
God sent Jesus to earth.

SPECIAL BUDDIES



JESUS WAS BORN

SCRIPTURE: Luke 2:1-20

WEEKLY VERSE: Good news! Jesus was born. *Luke 2:10-11*

LIFE POINT: God sent Jesus.

Long ago, Joseph and Mary traveled to a little town called Bethlehem. There was no room in the inn, so Mary and Joseph rested in a stable. While they were there, Jesus was born. Mary wrapped Baby Jesus in soft cloths and placed Him in a manger.

An angel appeared to shepherds in the field. The angel said, "Do not be afraid. I have good news for everyone. Tonight in Bethlehem, a Savior was born who is Christ the Lord. You will find Him wrapped in soft cloths and lying in a manger."

The shepherds went quickly to find the baby. When the shepherds saw Baby Jesus, they were filled with joy. They praised God for all they had seen. They went to tell everyone they had seen the child.

LIVE IT OUT: Emphasize that God sent Jesus. Keep the focus of Christmas on Jesus. Read the account of Jesus' birth from Luke 2. Provide other books that focus on the birth of Jesus for your child to read and enjoy.

BIBLE AND ME: Read these verses each day with your child.

Sunday: Luke 2:11
Monday: Joshua 1:7
Tuesday: Luke 1:50
Wednesday: Galatians 4:4
Thursday: Matthew 21:9
Friday: Luke 2:7
Saturday: Isaiah 7:14

TAKE IT FURTHER

Check out the *Jesus Was Born* section of the Bible Studies For Life: Kids Family App.





Jesus



God



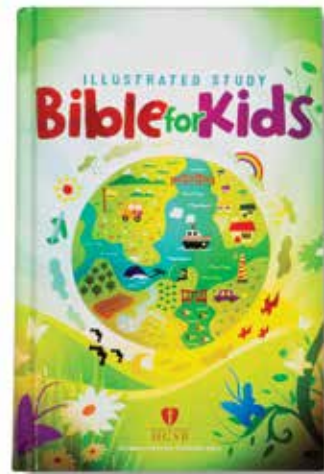
angel



family



family



Bible



tabernacle



scroll



Jesus



angel



God



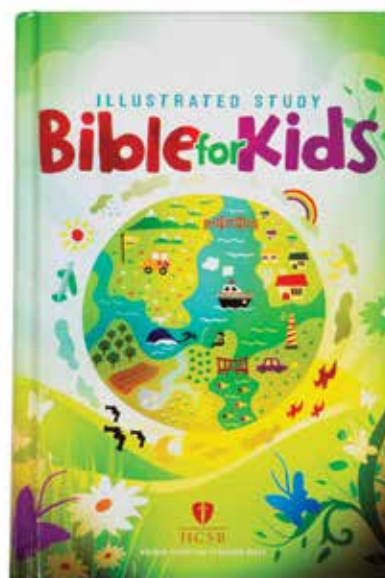
love



family



family



Bible



scroll



RUTH



NAOMI



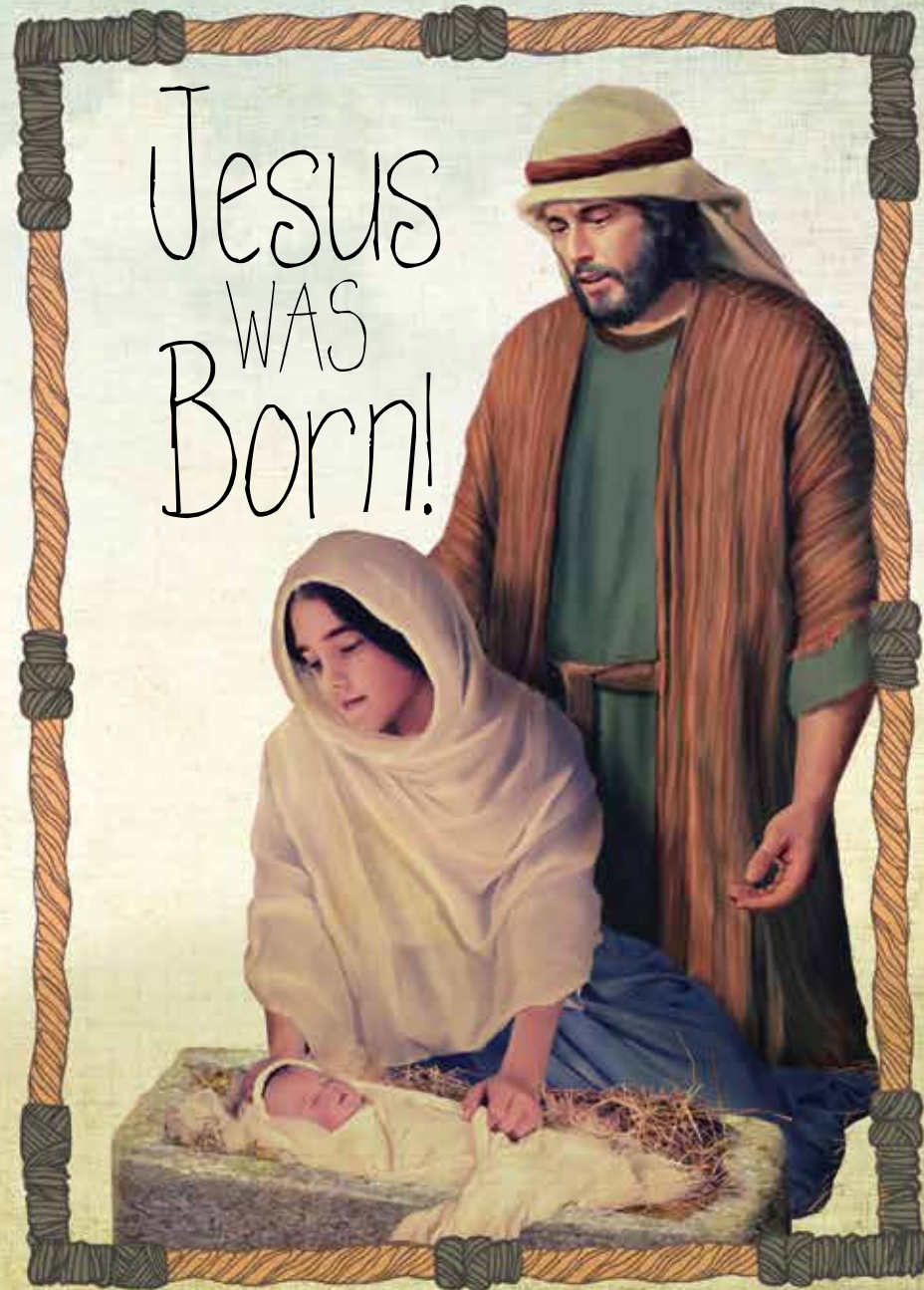
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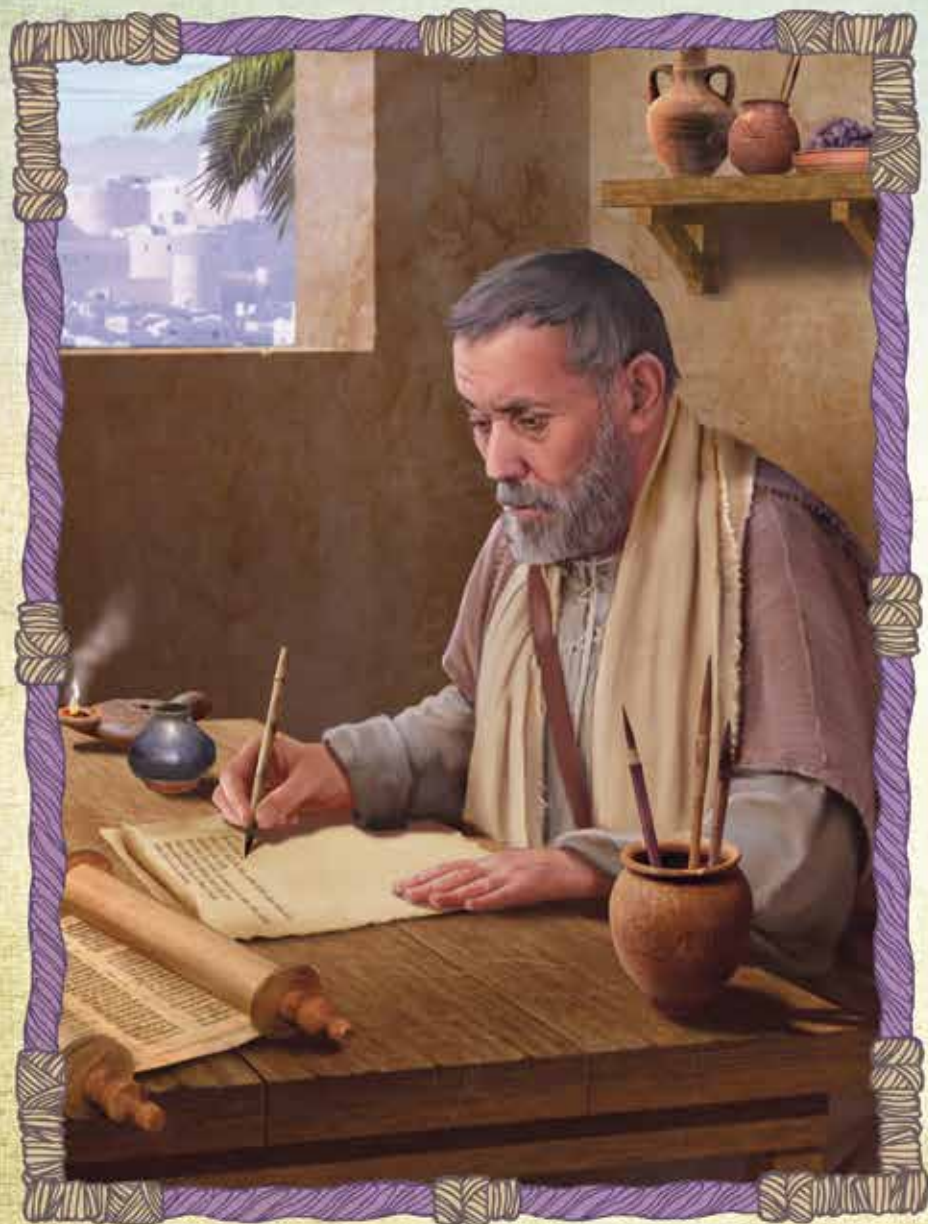


OBED



Wise men from a country in the East saw a star.
 They followed the star and found Jesus.
 They brought gifts of gold, frankincense,
 and myrrh to Jesus.
 They worshiped Jesus and thanked God
 for sending Jesus.





Mary and Joseph traveled to Bethlehem.

Baby Jesus was born in Bethlehem and
placed in a manger.

Shepherds in the field heard the good
news from angels.

They came to see Baby Jesus.

They praised God for keeping His promise
and sending Baby Jesus.



Isaiah was a prophet.

He lived a long time before Jesus was
born.

He wrote about God's plan
for Jesus to be born.

His prophecies told people
about God's plan.



God planned for Jesus to have a family.

God chose Mary.

An angel told Mary, "You will give birth to a son and call Him Jesus."

God chose Joseph to love and care for Mary and Jesus.

Mary and Joseph obeyed God and began to get ready for Baby Jesus.



**Good news!
Jesus was born.**

Luke 2:10-11



**Give thanks to God
for He is good.**

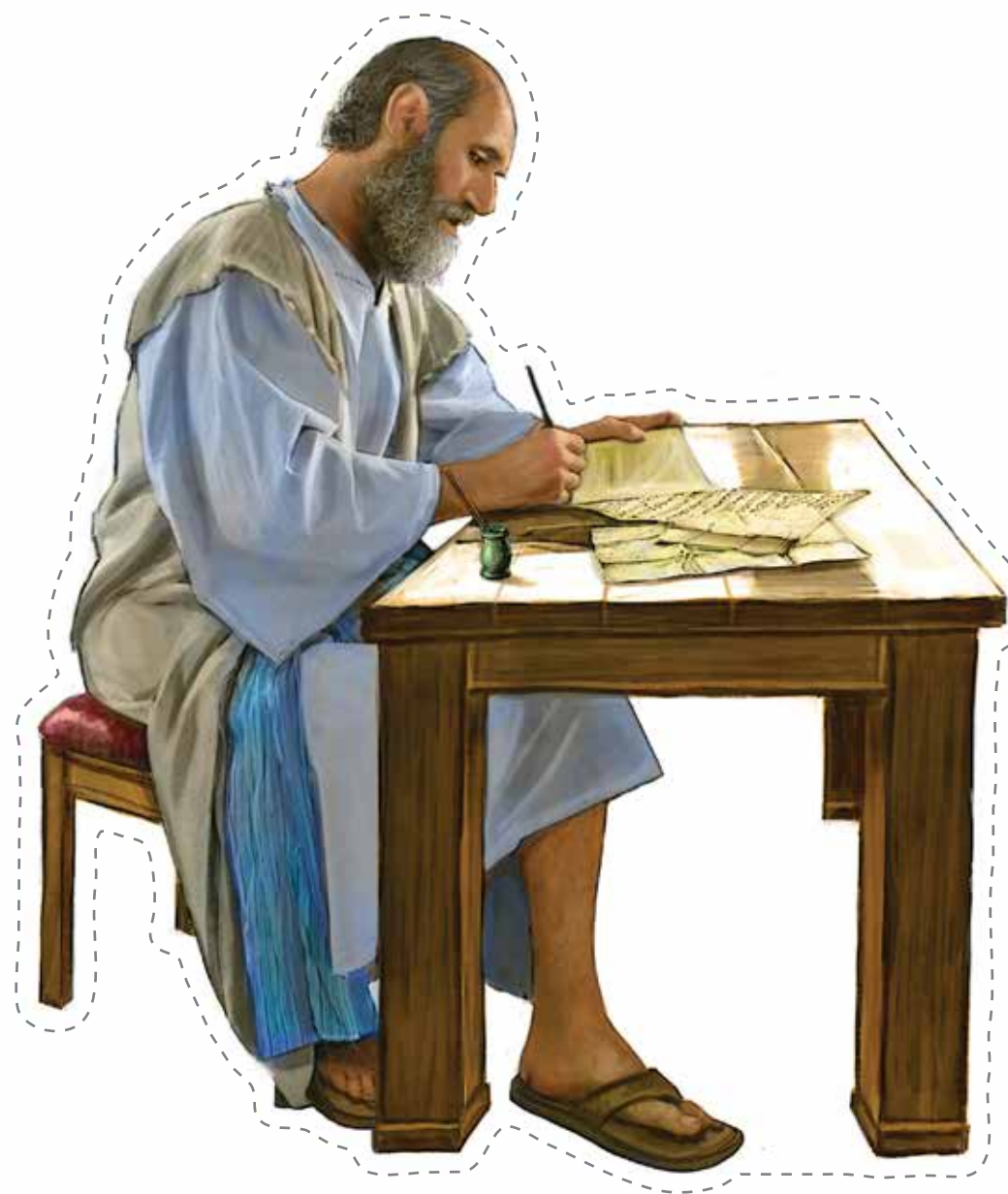
1 Chronicles 16:34

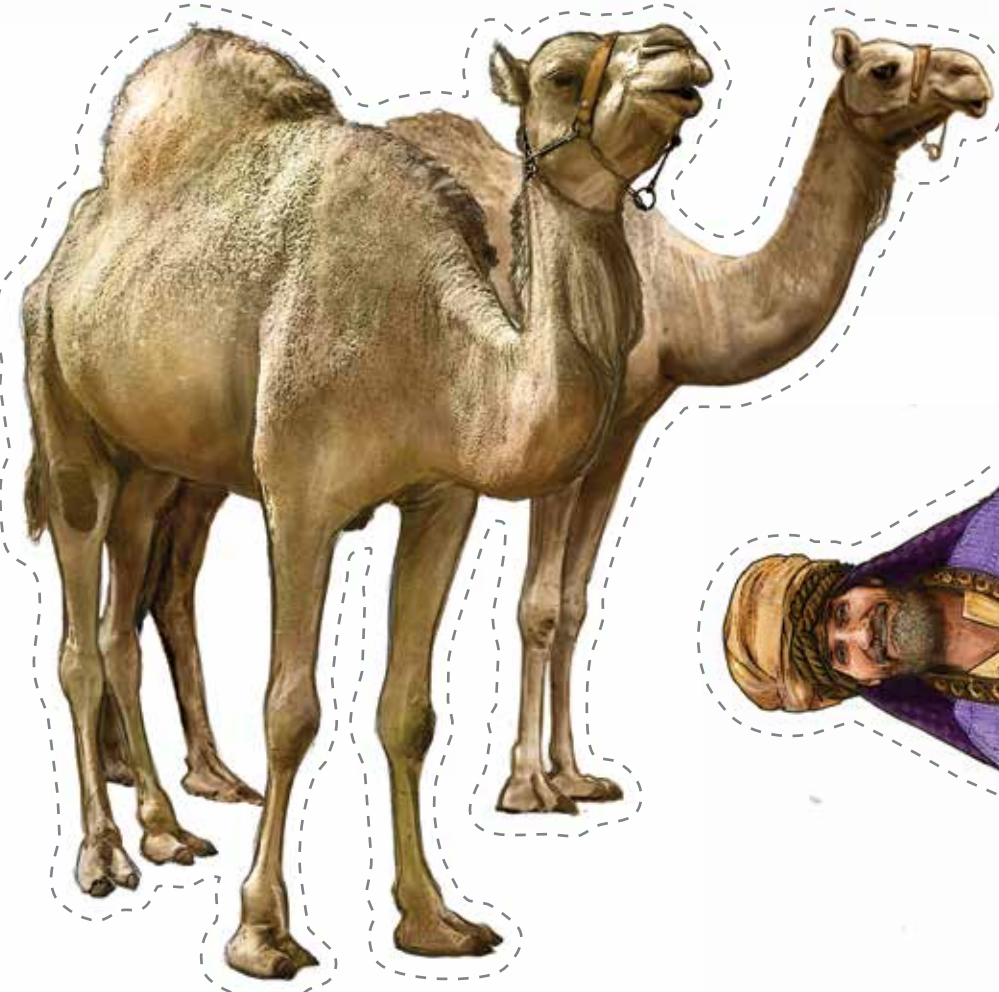
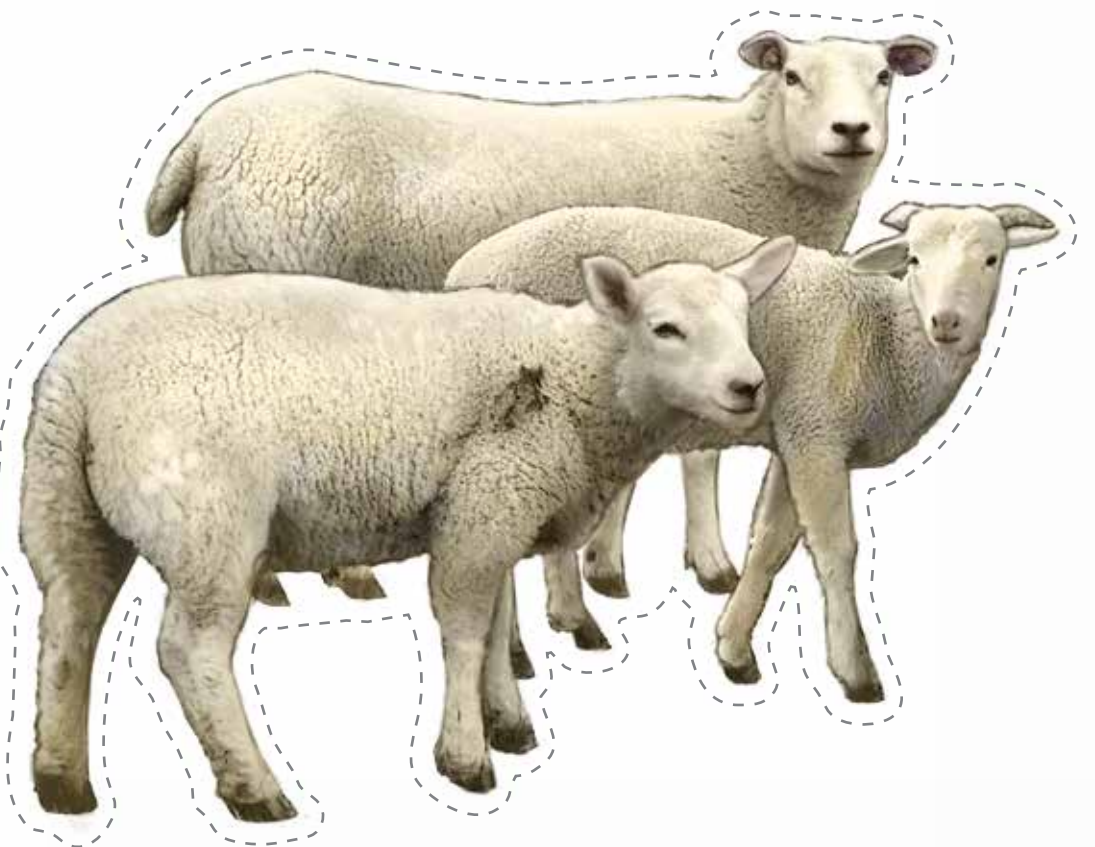


**God will teach us
how to live.**

Micah 4:2









19A JESUS' BIRTH TIME LINE
Unit 1
Leader Pack, Winter 2016–17

Instructions: Cut apart these two scenes for the time line. Add them to the two scenes found on Item 19A. Consider laminating or covering with clear adhesive plastic for durability. Place the four scenes in order and display them in the group-time area each week. Encourage children to place the figures from Items 18A–B in front of each background as you review the Bible stories in this unit.





Jesus Was Born

Jesus Was Born

Jesus Was Born

Jesus Was Born

Jesus Was Born

Jesus Was Born

Jesus Was Born

Jesus Was Born



Jesus Was Born

Jesus Was Born

Jesus Was Born

Jesus Was Born

Jesus Was Born

Jesus Was Born

Jesus Was Born

Jesus Was Born



Wise Men Visited Jesus

Wise Men Visited Jesus

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Instructions: Separate apart the pictures. Glue the pictures on the ornaments the child makes each week as directed in the Leader Guide. If you need additional pictures, print them from the CD.



22 **STAR PATTERN**
Unit 1, Session 4
Leader Pack, Winter 2016–17

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Instructions: Copy a star pattern onto card stock for each child, or cut out the pattern and trace onto poster board. Cut out the stars. Print the child's name and the year *2016* on one side of the star. Encourage the child to glue the picture "Wise Men Visited Jesus" (Item 21b or CD) on the other side of the star. Tape a

bright-colored piece of yarn (about 3 feet long) on the star; encourage the child to wrap the yarn around the star. Tie or tape the end securely, leaving a loop to hang the star on a tree. Some children may want to wrap more than one piece of yarn around their stars.

Allergy Alert!

We will be using the following items today.
Please let teachers know of any allergies.





**God will send a
child to be born.**

Isaiah 7:14



**The wise men
worshiped
Jesus.**

Matthew 2:11



**You will give
birth to a son
and call Him
Jesus.**

Luke 1:31



**Give thanks to
God for He is
good.**

1 Chronicles 16:34



**Good news!
Jesus was
born.**

Luke 2:10-11



**We will obey
God.**

Joshua 24:24



**God helps me.
I will not be
afraid.**

Hebrews 13:6



**God always
helps us.**

Psalms 46:1



**Show family
love to one
another.**

Romans 12:10



**Be strong and
have courage.**

Psalms 31:24



**God will teach
us how to live.**

Micah 4:2



**I pray to God,
and He hears
me.**

Psalms 77:1



**Always do what
is right.**

2 Thessalonians 3:13

Missions in Madagascar

Missionaries: Grant and Jodie Waller

Off the coast of Africa is a large island called Madagascar. Madagascar is known for tropical jungles, beautiful beaches, and lively lemurs.

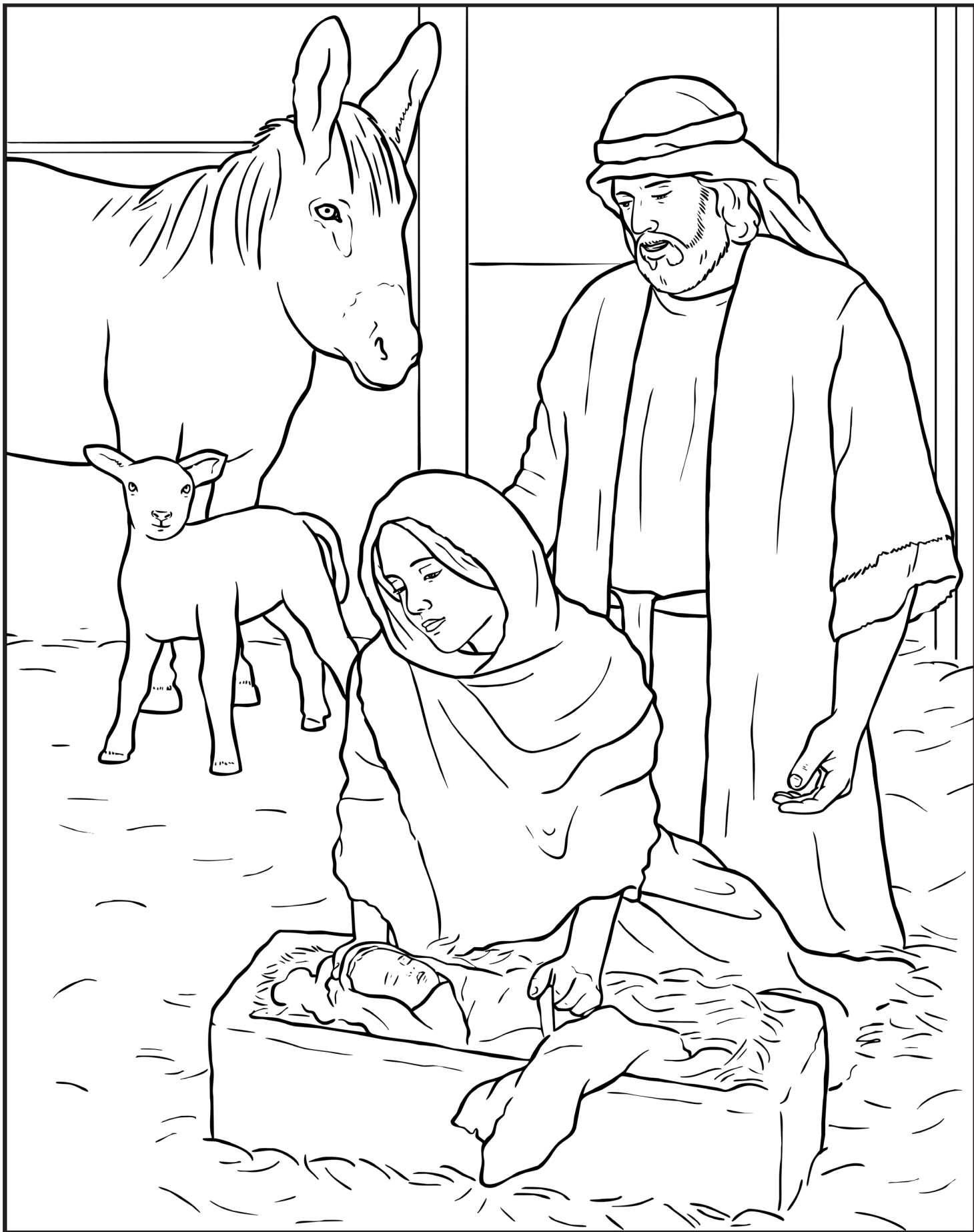
The Mahafaly [mah-hah-fah-lee] people live in the dusty, hot desert of Madagascar. Many are hungry because there is not enough food to eat. Some drink out of mud puddles because there is not enough clean water. The Mahafaly people are farmers. They grow corn, rice, black-eyed peas, and cassava (a woody shrub with a root that is eaten). At the ages of 5 and 6, the children work herding the goats and sheep and planting in the fields.

Grant and Jodi Waller live in Madagascar with their two children. The Wallers travel by truck to the villages when the ground is dry. They fly in a helicopter when the rains come. The Wallers teach the Mahafaly people about Jesus by telling Bible stories and leading the people to worship Him.

Pray for

- The Wallers
- The Mahafaly people to learn about Jesus and want to worship Him
- Food and clean water





Jesus Was Born

Good news! Jesus was born. *Luke 2:10-11*

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