



Liz

# Good news

Luke 2:1-20

## Prayer

Dear God, thank You for sending Jesus to earth as a baby because You love us so much. Thank You that He came to be our Savior. Forgive us for our sins (name some). Please help us this Christmas season to tell our friends about Jesus, just like the shepherds did. In Jesus' name, Amen.



## Family devotions

### SUNDAY

Isaiah 7:14

### MONDAY

John 1:1-5, 14

### TUESDAY

Psalm 96:1-4

### WEDNESDAY

Luke 2:1-7

### THURSDAY

Luke 2:8-20

### FRIDAY

Titus 3:4-7

### SATURDAY

Matthew 2:1-12

## Did you know?

\* The Old Testament foretold what the Messiah's lineage would be (Isaiah 11:1), what His name would be and that He would be born of a virgin (Isaiah 7:14), what town He would be born in (Micah 5:2), and that He would suffer and die (Isaiah 53).

\* Many scholars believe Jesus may have actually been born in the fall or winter of 5 B.C.

\* The name *Bethlehem* means "house of bread." It was indeed the birthplace for the "Bread of Life."

\* Many stables in Bible times were caves in the hillsides.

## Family activity

\* Set up a Nativity scene. Tell the Christmas story as your child helps you put the figures in place.

\* Make a care package to give to a needy family or elderly person. You can include meat, cheese, fruit, or homemade goodies. Deliver the package as a family and share the Christmas story.

\* Donate toys or money to a charity, volunteer at a homeless shelter, or go Christmas caroling at a nursing home.

## What's it all about?

The prophecies in the Old Testament clearly laid out the circumstances of Jesus' birth, and God used the events of history to fulfill His divine plan. According to the Old Testament, Jesus was to be born in Bethlehem (Micah 5:2), the City of David. Since Jesus was a descendant of David (Luke 1:27-32), God used the census decreed by Caesar Augustus to bring Mary and Joseph to Bethlehem at the right time for Jesus' birth (Luke 2:1-6). Jesus was probably born in a barn or cave and was laid in a manger. That certainly doesn't seem appropriate for a king! But it was part of God's marvelous plan to send His Son, Jesus, to earth in human form and die on the cross for our sins (Philippians 2:6-8).

After the angels announced the birth of the Savior to the shepherds, "they came in a hurry and found their way to Mary and Joseph, and the baby as He lay in the manger" (Luke 2:16). "The shepherds went back, glorifying and praising God" (Luke 2:20). May our hearts rejoice, too, in the birth of our Savior!

## Songs to sing

"Joy to the World"  
 "Angels We Have Heard on High"  
 "In a Little Stable"  
 "Go, Tell It on the Mountain"

## Memory verse

"For today in the city of David there has been born for you a Savior, who is Christ the Lord." *Luke 2:11*

# Jesus is born!

Connect the dots and color the picture



# Good news of great joy

Luke 2:1-20

It was almost time for Baby Jesus to be born. The ruler Caesar Augustus made a law that all the people of the land had to travel to their own cities to be counted.

So Mary and Joseph took a long trip to the city of Bethlehem. While they were in Bethlehem, the time came for Baby Jesus to be born. The city was so crowded that Mary and Joseph couldn't find any place to stay. They had to stay in a stable, which is like a barn. There in the stable, Jesus was born. Mary wrapped Jesus in cloths and laid Him in a manger.

## Memory verse

“For today in the city of David there has been born for you a Savior, who is Christ the Lord.”

*Luke 2:11*

Outside of Bethlehem there were shepherds watching their sheep. It was nighttime. Suddenly the sky became bright, and the shepherds saw an angel. The shepherds were terribly frightened.

The angel said, “Do not be afraid. I bring you good news of great joy for all people! Today a Savior has been born in Bethlehem. He is Christ the Lord. Go to Bethlehem, and you will find the baby lying in a manger.”

Suddenly, a multitude of angels appeared in the sky. They praised God and said, “Glory to God in the highest!”

The shepherds hurried straight to Bethlehem. They found Mary and Joseph and Baby Jesus. They worshiped Him and told others about Jesus the Savior. The shepherds went back to their sheep and praised God for everything they had seen.