

A NIGHT LIKE NO OTHER



Bible Reference: Luke 2, Matthew 2

Date: 12/14/25

Grade: PreK /Kindergarten

1st Service

Memory Verse:

"And he will be called Wonderful Counsellor, Mighty God,
Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace" Isaiah 9:6

Schedule

- Welcome/ Intro Activity.....5 minutes
 - Kindergarten in Large Group Lesson @ 9:20.....15-20 minutes
- Circle Time and Bible Story.....10 minutes
- Movement Activity.....10 minutes
- Craft.....5-7 minutes
- Music.....5 minutes
- Global Partner Feature.....5-7 minutes
- Prayer and Bible Verse.....10 minutes
- Snack/ Discussion Time.....5-7 minutes
- Group Game.....10 minutes
- Additional Activities.....As Needed

Notes and Reminders

Happy December! As we prepare for and celebrate Christmas, let's take time to pray for families who are experiencing grief this Christmas. For many, this season is a reminder of changing circumstances (moving to a new town, losing a family member, the last of something, etc.) We can be in prayer that God will help people who are hurting to feel his comfort and to continue to see the joy of Jesus' birth despite the hurt they are experiencing.



SHEPHERD BIBLE STUDY

How many times have you read or heard the narrative of Jesus' birth? When interacting with a familiar Bible story, it is easy to simply skim over it and assume we understand all there is to know about it. Rather than taking that approach, spend time this week meditating on Luke 2:1-20.

The detailed account of His conception and birth, as well as the details between those two events, provide the believer with a gift of God's grace that is far too important to gloss over. This event preceding Jesus' ministry, death, and resurrection lays the foundation for a close and thoughtful study of the Gospels.

The details around the conception and birth of Jesus provide reason for amazement and strengthen our faith. Consider the detail of *Mary* having been a virgin, fulfilling the prophecy of Isaiah 7:14. Jesus was born in the small town of Bethlehem, fulfilling the prophecy of Micah 5:2. He was born into the family line of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob—fulfilling God's promises in Genesis 12:3; 17:19; 28:14.

All of this ought to cultivate a sense of wonder at the divine intervening in the human world, and an amazement at the detail to which God worked out His plan.

Additionally, recalling the details of Jesus' birth ought to generate affirmation in the believer's heart and mind. The uniqueness surrounding the birth of Jesus affirms His claims of being the Son of God.

Finally, the birth narrative should grow the anticipation of the believer. At the end of the New Testament, the book of Revelation sheds light on the end of sin and death, the final judgment of the living and the dead, and the new heaven and the new earth. These promises can seem distant or unlikely; however, the joy and gratitude that comes from understanding Jesus' birth narrative can cultivate confidence in and anticipation of the future promises of Jesus.

Luke 2 invites us to behold our God, who—out of His great love for us—“emptied himself by assuming the form of a servant, taking on the likeness of humanity” (Phil. 2:7). Jesus came to earth to rescue sinners. The angels' announcement to the shepherds in Luke 2:10 is also for us: “Don't be afraid, for look, I proclaim to you good news of great joy that will be for all the people.”

JUNIOR SHEPHERD HIGHLIGHT

How many times have you heard the story of Jesus' birth? When a story is familiar, it's easy to think we already know everything about it. But this week, take time to slow down and really think about Luke 2:1–20.

The story of Jesus' birth is full of amazing moments that can strengthen our faith. For example, Mary was a virgin, which fulfilled a prophecy in Isaiah 7:14. Jesus was born in Bethlehem, just like the prophet Micah said in Micah 5:2. Jesus also came from the family line of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, which fulfilled promises God made in Genesis. All these details show how carefully God carried out His plan.

Remembering the details of Jesus' birth also helps confirm that Jesus really is the Son of God. The unique way He came into the world matches the claims He made during His life.

Lastly, the story of Jesus' birth should help us look forward to the future. The book of Revelation talks about a time when sin and death will be gone forever, and God will make a new heaven and a new earth. These promises can feel far away, but understanding the truth of Jesus' birth helps us trust that His future promises are real, too.

OUTLINE



Welcome and Intro Activity

5 minutes

Welcome the children and mark them as present on the attendance sheet on the clipboard by the door.

- Hide the pictures of **Mary**, **Joseph**, **Baby Jesus**, **angel**, **shepherds**, and **animals** around the room. As children find them, say the name of the people and the animals together. Whenever the children find **Baby Jesus**, say the memory verse together (Isaiah 9:6 "And he will be called **Wonderful Counsellor**, **Mighty God**, **Everlasting Father**, **Prince of Peace**.")
- **SAY** We found and said the name of different people and animals. In our Bible story today, we will hear that **Jesus** was born. He was born in **Bethlehem**.

Circle Time and Bible Story

10 minutes

Thinking Activity

- Gather the **Mary**, **Joseph**, and **Baby Jesus** pictures from the intro activity. Invite children to join you in group time. Show the three figures and ask children to name them. Prompt as needed.
- **SAY** We usually see **Mary**, **Joseph**, and **Baby Jesus** figures around Christmas. Christmas is when we have a special time to celebrate **Jesus'** birth. However, His birth is important all the time and we are beginning a new unit about **Jesus'** life. Our Bible story today is about **Jesus'** birth. In the next few weeks we will learn about **Jesus'** life on earth. Let's listen to hear more about when **Jesus** was born.

Bible Story

- One day, an angel told **Mary** she was going to have a very special baby. The angel explained, "This baby will be **God's Son**." Then an angel appeared to **Joseph** in a dream. The angel said, "Do not be afraid to take **Mary** as your wife. Her baby was put there by the Holy Spirit. Name Him **Jesus** because He will save His people from their sins!" During the time **Mary** was pregnant with **Baby Jesus**, they had to travel to **Bethlehem** to be counted. While they were there, **Mary** was ready to have her baby. **Mary** and **Joseph** looked for a 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 in the fields. An angel stood before them. A bright light was around the shepherds, and they were scared! The angel said, "Do not be afraid! I have good news for you: Today a **Savior** was born for you." 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!" 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. The shepherds praised God because everything had happened just like the angel had said.





Review Activity

- Hold up the **Mary** figure and ask the children what the angel told **Mary**. Then display the **Joseph** figure and ask what the angel told him. Ask where they traveled while **Mary** was pregnant. Show the shepherd figures and ask children what the shepherds did after they found Baby Jesus.
- **SAY** The angel told **Mary** she was going to have a very special baby. The angel explained, 'This baby will be God's Son.' An angel appeared to Joseph in a dream and told him to not be afraid to take **Mary** as his wife. Jesus was born in Bethlehem. An angel told the shepherds good news: A Savior was born. The shepherds hurried to Bethlehem to find Baby Jesus. They found Him, and then they told others about Him. Jesus was born! This was very good news! Jesus came into the world to rescue us from sin.

Movement Activity

10 minutes

Tape two start lines on the floor at one end of the room. Place two baskets filled with nativity pictures including **Mary**, **Joseph**, **Baby Jesus**, **angel**, **shepherds**, and **animals** at the other end of the room. Tape a line, about 2 feet long, in front of each basket. Form two teams of children. Tell each team to line up behind the start line. At your cue, the first child in each line will crawl like a baby to the other end of the room and place a nativity figure from the team's basket on the line in front of the basket. Then, he will walk back to the group and move to the end of the line. Continue until each child has a turn to add a figure to the nativity scene. Place figures back in the basket as needed to ensure each child has an opportunity to add a figure. At the end of the game, ask the preschoolers to identify the nativity figures in the scene.

SAY The shepherds praised Jesus even when He was a little baby. They knew He was a special baby. Jesus is God's Son. He is the Savior of the world. What did Jesus do to save us? Jesus died on the cross and rose from the dead. He made the way for us to live with God forever if we put our trust in Jesus.

Craft

5-7 minutes

Christmas Kindness Countdown

- Distribute a lacing card to each child. Guide children to go up from the bottom to the top at one corner, then go up into the next hole and continue lacing around the entire picture. Talk about the Bible story as the preschoolers sew.
- **SAY** You sewed around a picture of **Baby Jesus**. Jesus' birth was very good news. The angels told the shepherds that He was born and then the shepherds hurried to Bethlehem to find Him. They found Him in a manger and wrapped in cloth just like the angel had said. They praised God that Jesus was born. They knew He was a special baby. You can show this picture to your friends and tell them that Jesus was born!





Music

5 minutes

You will find music and other video resources on the USB which is already plugged into the TV. Feel free to play the videos in any order you like! You may distribute the Activity Page for the children to complete at this time, if they would prefer to sit and listen to the music.

Friends From Afar

5-7 minutes

You will find today's activity for Friends from Afar in the Binder on the counter. The information for this month's Global Partner family and an activity to learn about where they are serving are included. Necessary supplies are located in your bin.

Prayer and Bible Verse

10 minutes

Prayer (Use these words, or your own, to pray about today's Bible lesson. Take time to listen to prayer requests from the children and pray for them as well!)

- God, thank You that Jesus was born and is Your Son! Thank You for sending Jesus to earth from heaven to rescue us from sin. Amen

Bible Verse

- "And he will be called Wonderful Counsellor, **Mighty God**, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace" Isaiah 9:6
- Teach the children the motions for this verse.
 - And he will be called- point one finger to your mouth
 - Wonderful Counsellor- tap your temples
 - **Mighty God**- flex your arms like muscles
 - Everlasting Father- tap your wrist (like a watch)
 - Prince of peace- hold your hands in front of your chest like you are praying
- Have the kids join you in saying the verse and doing the motions several times to practice. Ask the children if anyone would like to do the verse on their own. If someone needs help, have them pick a friend or do it with them. If no one volunteers, repeat as a class twice more.





Snack and Discussion Time

5-7 minutes

Have children sanitize their hands before passing out snacks and cups of water. During this time, you can connect with children and discuss questions regarding the lesson.

1. What did you like about the Bible story? (Preschoolers' answers will vary.)
2. Who was Jesus' mother? (Mary was Jesus' mother.)
3. Why was Jesus such a special baby? (Jesus is God's Son.)
4. Why was the birth of Jesus very good news? (Jesus came into the world to rescue us from sin.)
5. What did Jesus do to save us? Jesus died on the cross and rose from the dead.

SAY An angel came to Mary and told her she was going to have a very special baby. Joseph found out the news when an angel appeared to him in a dream. The angel told Joseph to not be afraid, make Mary his wife, and name the baby Jesus. Before Jesus was born, Mary and Joseph traveled to Bethlehem to be counted. They tried to find a place to stay because Mary was ready to give birth. Every place was full. They had to stay in a place where the animals were kept, which is where she gave birth to Jesus. She wrapped Him in cloth and laid Him in a manger. That night, while the shepherds were watching their sheep in fields, an angel came to them and a bright light shone around them, and they were afraid. The angel told them to go and find Baby Jesus. Then, many angels appeared and started praising God. The shepherds found Baby Jesus and told others about Him. 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 us from sin

Group Game

10 minutes

- Encourage children to use the nativity scene pictures from the opening activity to act out the Bible story. Encourage children to name each of Jesus' family and use the figures to retell the Bible story. Ask questions as needed to guide their play.
- **SAY** The Bible tells us that Jesus was born in Bethlehem. Even before Jesus was born, Mary and Joseph knew He would be a special baby! An angel told Mary that Jesus would be God's Son. An angel told Joseph that Jesus would save people from their sins. How do you think the shepherds felt when they heard the Savior was born? They hurried to Bethlehem to see Jesus and then they told others about Him. The shepherds knew that Jesus was a very special baby! How would you have felt if you saw Baby Jesus?





Additional Activities

As Needed

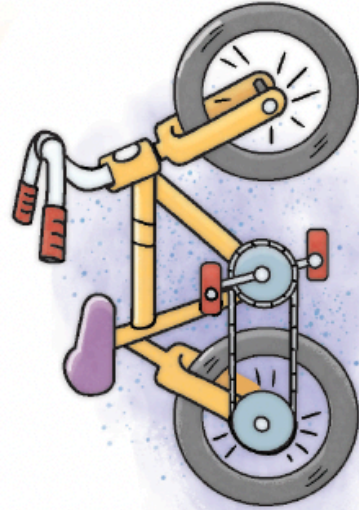
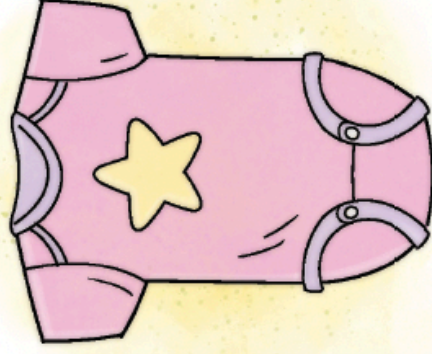
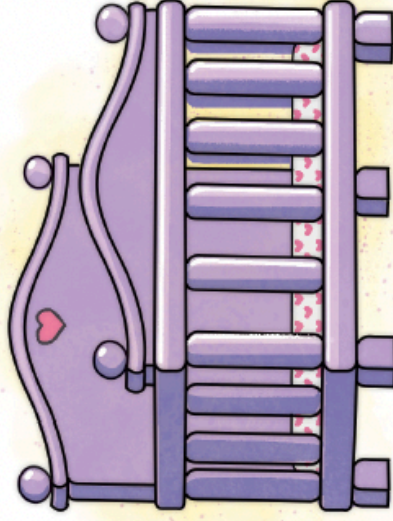
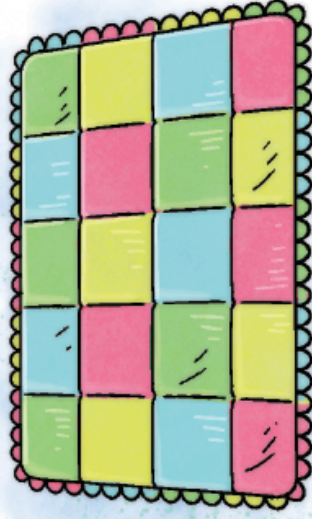
Look at the Map

- Look at the world map in your room. Point to where you live. Show where Jesus was born. Place sticky notes on your state, Bethlehem, and locations of missionaries your church prays for. Name each place as you add the stickers. Point out the colors on the globe used for water and land.
- **SAY** The Bible says to tell everyone about Jesus. People all over the world need to hear about Jesus. The shepherds told people in Bethlehem that they had seen Jesus. Jesus' disciples told people about Him. Missionaries go all over the world to tell people about Jesus. You and I can tell people about Jesus where we live. We can tell our friends and family that Jesus takes away the sin of the world. Who is someone you can tell about Jesus?



What Do Babies Need?

INSTRUCTIONS: Circle the things that babies need.



NAME:

Jesus Was Born

BIBLE STORY SUMMARY:

- Mary and Joseph had to travel to Bethlehem to be counted.
- They 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, an angel visited shepherds who were taking care of their sheep. The angel told them good news: A Savior was born. The shepherds hurried to find Baby Jesus.

CHRIST CONNECTION:

Jesus was born! This was very good news! Jesus came into the world to rescue us from sin.

KEY PASSAGE PHRASE:

Jesus takes away the sin of the world. John 1:29

BIG PICTURE QUESTION:

What did Jesus do to save us? Jesus died on the cross and rose from the dead.

