



Faith Fact

Jesus came to save us from our sins.

Faith Verse

John 1:14 (NLT)

The Word became human and made his home among us. He was full of unfailing love and faithfulness.

Question of the Day: Why did Jesus come to earth?

Read about It

Pray and ask God to speak to you before you read today's Scripture.

- Read Genesis 3:1–6, 13–15, 23; Matthew 1:20–21.

Imagine that you're in the kitchen fixing breakfast and all of a sudden, you drop a massive bottle of syrup. The syrup goes all over the floor, all over the cupboards and even splashes on the ceiling. It's sticky and it's messy and it's absolutely everywhere! You try to clean it up, but the more you try, the worse it gets. Your socks are sticking to the floor, and your hands are covered with syrup. And now your dog has walked through and is getting sticky paw prints all over the place. It's a mess!

This is kind of the way sin works too. If we try to fix it on our own, we make an even bigger mess. Imagine then, that someone who actually knows how to clean up the mess, like mom or dad, comes in and offers to help you. They have the right tools, they know what to do, and they clean up the whole mess for you. It wasn't their mess to clean up, but they did it because they love you.

This is what Jesus does for us. When we sin, we create messes that can only be cleaned up by Jesus. This is why Jesus came to earth—to save us from our sins. He was born as a baby, lived a perfect life, died by being crucified on a cross, and rose from the dead so we can have new and eternal life through Him!

Think about It

Question 1*

How did sin enter the world?

Answer 1: Through the disobedience of Adam and Eve (Genesis 3:1–19; Romans 5:14) [Bible Fact-Pak question 29]

Question 2*

How did Jesus die?

Answer 2: He was crucified, or nailed to a cross. (Matthew 27:35) [Bible Fact-Pak question 220]

Question 3*

Why did God instruct Joseph to call Mary's son "Jesus"?

Answer 3: Because He would save His people from their sins (Matthew 1:21) [Bible Fact-Pak question 329]

*Questions marked with an * are from *Bible Fact-Pak Question Cards*, available from MyHealthyChurch.com.

Talk about It

- What kind of messes have you made that you couldn't fix on your own?
- What do you think it was like to live in the Garden of Eden before sin entered the world?
- Why can't we fix the problem of sin by ourselves?
- What does it mean to you that Jesus came to save you from your sins?

Pray about It

Dear God, thank You for loving us and sending Jesus to save us. I'm sorry for the times when I've sinned and disobeyed Your Word. Help me to follow You every day. Amen.

**Faith Fact**

Jesus is the Light of the world.

Faith Verse

John 1:14 (NLT)

The Word became human and made his home among us. He was full of unfailing love and faithfulness.

Formatted: Pattern: Clear (Custom Color(RGB(206,26,35)))

Formatted: Pattern: Clear (Custom Color(RGB(206,26,35)))

Question of the Day: What does it mean that Jesus is the Light of the world?**Read about It**

Pray and ask God to speak to you before you read today's Scripture.

Formatted: Font color: Custom Color(RGB(206,26,35))

- *Read John 1:4–5; 8:12.*

Have you ever built a blanket fort? You know, the kind where you take all the pillows off the couch, grab blankets from all over the house, and set everything up just right so nothing is falling down? Things are perfectly draped so it feels like you have your own little cozy hideout right in the middle of the living room. You grab your favorite snacks, a good book, your favorite stuffed animals, and you get all settled in, only to find that it's too dark and you can't see anything. So, what do you do? You grab a flashlight. Suddenly, everything changes. You can read your book, enjoy your snacks, and even invite your family to come check it out!

This is kind of like what Jesus does, not only for us, but for the whole world! The world around us can sometimes feel like a very dark, confusing, scary, and sad place, filled with all kinds of bad stuff. The Bible talks about darkness, too. Sin, confusion, sadness, and living away from God can bring darkness. But because Jesus is the Light of the world, when He came to earth, He brought light, life, and hope for all people! The light of Jesus helps to show us the way to God. When we experience the light of Jesus, He wants us to share that light with others, so everyone will know who He is.

Formatted: Font color: Custom Color(RGB(206,26,35))

Think about It

Question 1:

Who is “the Word” that “became human and made his home among us”?

Answer 1: Jesus (John 1:14)

Question 2:

According to John 8:12, what does Jesus say happens when we follow Him?

Answer 2: We won’t walk in darkness. We’ll have the light that leads to life.

Question 3:

What is darkness a picture of in the Bible?

Answer 3: Sin, confusion, sadness, living away from God

Talk about It

- What are some things in the world that feel dark right now?
- How does knowing Jesus as the Light of the world help to change those things?
- How are you going to allow the light of Jesus to shine through you?

Pray about It

Dear Jesus, thank You for being the Light of the world. Thank You for the hope and life that can be found in You. Help me to share Your light with everyone I meet. Amen.

Formatted: Font color: Custom Color(206,26,35)

Formatted: Font color: Custom Color(206,26,35)

Formatted: Font color: Custom Color(206,26,35)



Faith Fact

God always has a plan.

Faith Verse

John 1:14 (NLT)

The Word became human and made his home among us. He was full of unfailing love and faithfulness.

Question of the Day: What part in your story do you think God is writing right now?

Read about It

Pray and ask God to speak to you before you read today's Scripture.

- Read Matthew 1:18–24; Luke 1:26–38; 2:8–18.

Have you ever seen a play or a special performance? Imagine being chosen as a character in a play where everyone has a special role to make the play come together perfectly. The director goes through and chooses certain people for certain parts. You might not understand exactly why you were picked for the role you were given, but the director picked you for a reason. Your part, no matter how small or big it may seem, is necessary for the story to be complete.

God also has a plan for each of us. God is the Author or the Director of our story. Just like Mary, Joseph, and the shepherds, we can trust that God's plan is perfect. Even if we don't know exactly what's coming next, we can trust that God's story for us is always good!

Think about It

Question 1*

Who told Mary she would be the mother of the Messiah?

Answer 1: The angel Gabriel (Luke 1:26–33) [Bible Fact-Pak question 171]

Question 2*

To whom was the virgin Mary engaged to be married?

Answer 2: Joseph (Matthew 1:18) [Bible Fact-Pak question 172]

Question 3:

What did the shepherds do after they saw Jesus?

Answer 3: They told everyone what had happened and what the angel had said to them. (Luke 2:17)

* Questions marked with an * are from *Bible Fact-Pak Question Cards*, available from MyHealthyChurch.com

Talk about It

- What does it mean that God is the Author of your story?
- Why do you think that God chose people like Mary, Joseph, and the shepherds to be part of the Christmas story?
- How can we know the plans God has for us?

Pray about It

Dear God, thank You for being the Author of our lives and for having the perfect story written out for us. Help us to follow You with all our hearts and trust Your Word. Amen.



Faith Fact

Jesus is King, God, and Savior.

Faith Verse

John 1:14 (NLT)

The Word became human and made his home among us. He was full of unfailing love and faithfulness.

Question of the Day: How can you show Jesus that He is your King, God, and Savior?

Read about It

Pray and ask God to speak to you before you read today's Scripture.

- Read Matthew 2:1–11.

Have you ever made or shopped for a special gift for someone? Maybe you worked really hard on creating a homemade gift or you spent hours searching every store to find just the right item to tell that special someone, "You matter to me"? It's fun to give gifts like that, especially at Christmas time!

That's kind of like what happened in the Bible story today when the Wise Men brought special gifts to Jesus. The Bible doesn't say why the gifts the Wise Men picked were specifically chosen, but we do know how these items were used in Bible times. Gold was very valuable and often given to kings. Jesus is King. Frankincense was an expensive perfume that was used in Bible times in worship of God. Jesus is God. Myrrh was a valuable oil that was used after someone died to prepare their body to be buried. This can remind us of what Jesus' purpose was on earth. He came to die on a cross and give His life so that our sins could be forgiven.

When we follow God's commands and live to follow Jesus, it's a way of worshipping and honoring Jesus as King, God, and Savior. Giving Jesus the gift of our lives in worship is the best gift we could ever give Him!

Think about It

Question 1*

How did the Wise Men find Jesus?

Answer 1: They followed His star to where He was. (Matthew 2:2–9) [Bible Fact-Pak question 177]

Question 2*

What gifts were given to Jesus by the Wise Men?

Answer 2: Gold, frankincense, myrrh (Matthew 2:11) [Bible Fact-Pak question 178]

Question 3:

Why did the Wise Men say they wanted to visit Jesus?

Answer 3: They wanted to go and worship Him. (Matthew 2:2)

*Questions marked with an * are from *Bible Fact-Pak Question Cards*, available from MyHealthyChurch.com

Talk about It

- If you were one of the Wise Men, what gift would you have brought to Jesus and why?
- What are some ways we can give gifts to Jesus without actually wrapping anything?
- How can you worship Jesus with your life?

Pray about It

Dear Jesus, I choose to follow You as my King, my God, and my Savior. Thank You for all that You've given to me. I want my life to worship and honor You for all that You are and all that You've done. Amen.



Week 5—FAMILY DEVOTION

Faith Fact

Our joy is found in Jesus.

Faith Verse

John 1:14 (NLT)

The Word became human and made his home among us. He was full of unfailing love and faithfulness.

Question of the Day: How can we have joy in Jesus?

Read about It

Pray and ask God to speak to you before you read today's Scripture.

- Read Matthew 1:21; 2:1–2, 10–11; Luke 2:8–10.

Think about a time when you were really happy. Maybe it was a time that you went on a special vacation with your family, or you got to spend some time playing with your best friend. Maybe you opened a gift that you had been wishing for or you got to enjoy your favorite meal. All these things are good and make us happy. But, they're nothing compared to the joy we can have in Jesus.

You can search for joy in things or in other people, but they let you down. Jesus is the only One who will never let us down. He is the One that we can always go to. The joy Jesus gives is bigger and better than anything we can imagine. We can have joy that is unchanging no matter what situation we face. That joy is only found in Jesus!

Think about It

Question 1*

Why did God instruct Joseph to call Mary's son "Jesus"?

Answer 1: Because He would save His people from their sins (Matthew 1:21) [Bible Fact-Pak question 329]

Question 2:

Who can we go to for joy that will never fail us?

Answer 2: Jesus

Question 3:

When the angel announced Jesus' birth to the shepherds, what did he say the good news would bring to all people?

Answer 3: Joy (Luke 2:8–10)

*Questions marked with an * are from *Bible Fact-Pak Question Cards*, available from MyHealthyChurch.com

Talk about It

- How does knowing what Jesus did offer joy to people who believe?
- How can we have joy no matter what situation we face?
- What are some ways we can remember to find joy in Jesus every day and not just at Christmas?

Pray about It

Dear Jesus, thank You for being the true joy of Christmas. Even when things are hard, help me to remember everything You've done for me and share that joy with others. Amen.