

# Growing Together

**Bible Story**  
Simeon and Anna see Jesus  
(Luke 2:21-38).

**Jesus' Birth 3:**  
Jesus is our Savior.

**Bible Verse**  
"For God loved the world so much that he gave his one and only Son, so that everyone who believes in him will not perish but have eternal life" (John 3:16).

## In Touch

Today your child learned that Jesus is our Savior. The children learned that Jesus was sent to save the world from sin so we might live with God forever. The children also learned that God made the promise to send Jesus hundreds of years before Jesus came. Use these ideas to teach your child about God's promise of eternal life.

## Party Time

Plan a birthday party for Jesus! Let this be a time to celebrate the birth of our Savior. Invite friends to sing songs and play games. Let everyone decorate his or her own cupcake as a birthday cake for Jesus. Put a candle on each cupcake, sing "Happy Birthday to You" to Jesus, and have everyone blow out the candles. Let everyone know God kept his promise by sending Jesus to be our Savior.

## Thanks, God

Make a scrapbook to honor God for being faithful to your family during the year. Include pictures of trips when God kept you safe, pictures of good times that God gave you, pictures of birthday parties that remind you that God helps you grow, and pictures of beautiful scenery that reminds you of God's beautiful creation. Go through the scrapbook as a family, and offer prayers of thanksgiving to God, who is forever faithful.

## Yard Art

Have some outdoor art fun. If there's snow on the ground, try snow painting. Fill a spray bottle with water tinted with food coloring. Spray colorful designs or messages on the snow. If you live in a warmer climate, draw Christmas pictures with sidewalk chalk. Or make a huge greeting or thank you note for someone who's coming to your house to visit.

## Hand Me a Promise

Have each family member trace around his or her hand on a sheet of paper and then cut out the hand shape and write a promise to the family on it. Promises could be "I promise to do my chores on time" or "I promise not to yell at my brother this week." Hang the cutouts on the Christmas tree. At the end of the week, talk about how hard it is to keep a promise for a long time. Thank God for remembering to keep his promise of sending a Savior to the world.