

JESUS IS BORN

Young Preschool • #NT3 • December 15, 2024

Concept

God always tells the truth.

Goal

Children will learn that Jesus came to earth as a man to die on the cross for their sin. Because His words are always true, they can always believe what He says.

Passage

Luke 2:1-20

Key Verse: "And this will be a sign for you: you will find a baby wrapped in cloths, and lying in a manger." Luke 2:12 (NASB)

Planning Ahead

Lesson Supplies	Craft Supplies
 Activity Stations: Bendable nativity figures The Beginner's Bible Birth of Jesus story cube 15" x 14" fabric nativity board & felt pieces Lesson: Read Aloud Bible Stories Vol. 3, Ella K. Lindvall 	 Learning Activity #1: Star stickers printed on Avery 5293 labels, 1/child Baby Jesus label, 1/child Markers, crayons Printed drawing of nativity, 1/child

*TEACHERS PLEASE NOTE

For clarity, the shaded areas in the Planning Ahead section indicate supplies that are in—and should be returned to—your classroom SHARED SUPPLY bag.

Background Information/Teacher Helps

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"It is the fulfillment of specific detailed prophesies that provides the Bible with its divine seal—a seal that can never be counterfeited, since it is affixed to the truth which it attests, namely, that God's foreknowledge of the actions of free and intelligent agents is one of the most 'incomprehensible attributes of Deity and is exclusively a Divine perfection.' We readily concede that the prophets themselves may not have understood the full import of the predictions they gave when they pictured beforehand the expected Messiah, yet the language they used could not refer to anyone else in history. It was thus that Paul was able to persuade the Jews that Jesus was the predicted One 'out of the prophets' (Acts 28:23).

"The drama of fulfilled prophecy is most evident in connection with the birth of Jesus, the details of which were exactly accomplished when He was born of Mary. Men must be blind if they cannot see that the identification between the One predicted and the One presented is most positive and complete. 'Then said the Lord unto me, . . . I watch over my word to perform it.' (Jer 1:12, R.V.). Thus having spoken, and guarding all, He inspired the prophets to set forth the truth carefully and accurately, for nothing short of absolute accuracy will suffice in the fulfillment of all He spoke concerning the Son He promised to send into the world."1

The Bible certainly does have a "divine seal—a seal that can never be counterfeited." That the prophecies were totally and accurately fulfilled is compelling evidence that God's word is the one and only truth.

Additional Reading: Micah 5:2; Luke 2:25-36

1 All the Messianic Prophecies of the Bible, Herbert Lockyer, 1973, Zondervan Publishing House, p. 59.

Set Up

The day of class – Cut stickers apart for easier distribution. You will need to trim down the baby Jesus label stickers.

Incorporation Lg. Group

Activity stations:

- Manipulative Nativity Scene
 - **Instructions:** Set up the nativity items and allow the children to play with them. Ask the children if they know who the people are.
- Read Aloud The Beginner's Bible Birth of Jesus story cube
 - **Instructions:** Follow the arrows to read the story as the cube unfolds.

Introduction Lg. Group

The Exercise Game [1]

Instructions: Use this activity to get the children ready to sit down for the lesson. Sing to the tune of "The Farmer in the Dell" while you lead the children in the actions. Make up your own verses, e.g., twisting side to side, marching in place. Finish with the sitting verse.

Jumping up and down, We're jumping up and down, Getting lots of exercise, We're jumping up and down.

Bend and touch our toes, We bend and touch our toes, Getting lots of exercise, We bend and touch our toes.

Stretching way up high, Stretching way up high, Getting lots of exercise, We're stretching way up high.

Sitting in our place, Sitting in our place, We've gotten lots of exercise, We're sitting in our place.

Last week we learned that an angel told Mary that she would have a son and she would name him Jesus. Were God's words true? Yes, Jesus was born just like God said. God always tells the truth!

[1] Games to Play with Toddlers, Jackie Silberg, © 1993 Jackie Silberg, Gryphon House, Inc., 10726 Tucker Street, Beltsville, MD 20704-0207, p. 160.

Transition

God wants us to know His truth. We can read God's truth in the Bible (hold up a Bible for the class to see). Listen while I read about when Jesus was born.

Lesson Lg. Group

"Baby Jesus and the Good News"

Instructions: Read the story from the Read Aloud Bible Stories Vol. 3, starting at page 132. It's the last story in the book.

Isn't that exciting? When Jesus was born in Bethlehem God's angel told the shepherds to go find baby Jesus. He said, "And this will be a sign for you: you will find a baby wrapped in cloths, and lying in a manger" (Luke 2:12). A manger is the place in the barn where they put the food for animals. (Show children the manger from the nativity set.) Did the story of Jesus really happen? (YES.) God said it and it happened. God always tells the truth!

It was very important to find Jesus because He is the most important person to know. He was born to do a special job. His special job was to die on the cross for our bad choices. We all make bad choices. We disobey our mommies and daddies, we get mad and hurt our friends or throw toys. There are consequences for our bad choices, aren't there? The worst consequence is that we can't be friends with God. But Jesus died on the cross so we can be friends with God. If you believe that Jesus loves you so much that He died on the cross for you, you will be God's friend.

God always tells the truth. His angel told the shepherds, "And this will be a sign for you: you will find a baby wrapped in cloths, and lying in a manger" (Luke 2:12). God always tells the truth! We can believe God. His words about Jesus are true.

Let's pray together now. Let's say thank you to Jesus for coming to this earth so He could grow up and die on the cross for us.

Transition

The angel of God told the shepherds, "And this will be a sign for you: you will find a baby wrapped in cloths, and lying in a manger" (Luke 2:12). When the shepherds got to Jesus, they found out that God's words were true. Let's make a picture of baby Jesus to take home to remind us that God told us that baby Jesus would come to earth.

Learning Activity#1 Lg. Group

Craft - Picture of baby Jesus

Instructions: Color the picture. Put the baby Jesus sticker in the manger. Attach the star sticker above the manger.