



# JESUS IS BORN

Preschool-K • #NT3 • December 17, 2023

## 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
<p><b>Activity Station:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Play dough</i></li> <li>• <i>8.5" x 11" magnetic nativity board &amp; pieces</i></li> <li>• <i>The Beginner's Bible Birth of Jesus story cube</i></li> </ul> <p><b>Introduction:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Animal crackers, 1 box/CT class</i></li> </ul> <p><b>Lesson</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Read Aloud Bible Stories Vol. 3, Ella K. Lindvall</i></li> </ul>	<p><b>Learning Activity #1:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Large, die-cut, yellow cardstock star, 1/child</li> <li>• Joseph, Mary, donkey, baby Jesus stickers, 1 of each/child</li> <li>• Chenille stems, 1/child</li> <li>• Crayons, markers</li> <li>• 3 hole punches</li> </ul>

### \*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 prophecies 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."<sup>1</sup>

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

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

## Set Up

### Incorporation Lg. Group

The day of class – Cut out the stickers, one set for each child. Punch a hole in the top of the large die-cut star for Learning Activity #1.

#### Activity Stations:

- **Craft – Playdough Family**
  - **Instructions:** Make a father, a mother and a baby out of playdough. As the children work, discuss with them that they will learn about a father and mother and their baby—a different father, mother and baby than Elizabeth, Zacharias and John.
- **Dramatic Play – Family**
  - **Instructions:** Play "house" with a father, a mother and a baby.
- **Manipulative – Nativity Scene**
  - **Instructions:** Set up the nativity objects and allow the children to play with them. Ask the children if they know who the people are. Why are they in a stable with animals?
- **Read Aloud – The Beginner’s Bible Birth of Jesus story cube**
  - **Instructions:** Follow the arrows to unfold the cube as you read the story.

### Introduction Lg. Group

We are going to play a guessing game. See if you can guess what will happen.

(Show the class the box of animal crackers. Open the box and pretend that you are going to eat the animal crackers.) What do you think I am going to do? Who thinks I’m going to eat these? (Take a vote. Then instead, give the crackers to all the children.) Did everyone guess the right answer? We do not always know what will happen. Sometimes we just guess. But do you know that there is one person who knows everything that will happen all the time? Who knows everything that will happen and is always right?

God tells us about things that will happen. He also tells us about things that happened a long time ago. Jesus was born a long, long time ago. Who knows about Jesus’ birth? Did God know that Jesus would be born? Did God know where Jesus would be born? Yes! God knows everything and always tells the truth.

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 Jesus’ birth.

### Transition

### 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.

**(Alternative: read Luke 2:1-20)**

What a great story! 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).

## Lesson Continued

Did the story of Jesus really happen? (YES.) God always tells the truth.

It was very important to find Jesus because God has a plan for the whole world and Jesus is the most important part of God's plan. Jesus was born to do a special job. Does anyone know what that job was? His special job was to be punished by God 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. The worst consequence is that we can't be friends with God. But Jesus never made bad choices so His special job was to be punished by God for our bad choices. He was born as a baby so He could grow up and die on the cross so we can be friends with God. If we believe that Jesus loves us so much that He died on the cross to help us and we ask that Jesus' death count as punishment for our sins, we will be God's friends. We will go to heaven to be with Him forever after we die.

God tells us about things that happened a long time ago and what will happen many days and years from now. His angels 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. Jesus was born just as God said He would be. The shepherds found Him just as God told them. His words about Jesus are true. We can believe everything God says.

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

Let's make a mobile with pictures about Jesus' birth to take home to remind us that God told us that baby Jesus would come to earth.

### **Craft – Nativity Mobile**

**Instructions:** Give each child a Joseph, Mary, baby Jesus, and donkey sticker and a star. Put the sticker figures on the star to represent the nativity. Color the stickers and the star. Put one end of the chenille stem through the hole in the top of the star for the hanger.

**Alternative Craft:** Draw a star on a piece of paper and have the kids draw Mary, Joseph, and baby Jesus in the star. Then have the kids cut out the star. Once it is cut out, hole punch a hole at the top of the star and put a string or chenille stem through the hole to make a loop.

Let's get into our small groups now to talk about how we can believe everything God says.

## Transition

## Learning Activity#1 Lg. Group

## Transition

## Learning Activity# 2 Sm. Groups

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.

- What did the angel of God tell the shepherds they would find in the manger? Is that what they found?
- Why was it important to find Jesus? What special job was Jesus born to do?
- Do you think we can believe everything God says is true? Why? Where can we read God's truth?