



UNIT 19 | SESSION 3 | MARCH 14-15, 2020

4s-5s Lesson

Jesus Was Born

Bible Passage: Luke 2

Story Point: Jesus was born to save people.

Key Passage: “In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.” John 1:1

Christ Connection: Jesus was not like other babies; Jesus is God’s Son.

**KID CONNECT:
30 MINUTES**

**LARGE GROUP:
15 MINUTES**

**SMALL GROUP:
15 MINUTES**

LEADER BIBLE STUDY

After the angel Gabriel appeared to Zechariah and predicted the birth of John—the forerunner of the Messiah—he appeared to Mary and predicted that she too would have a baby. This baby would be named Jesus, and He would be God’s Son. “He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High ... His kingdom will have no end,” Gabriel said. (See Luke 1:32-33.) Mary visited Zechariah and his wife, Elizabeth, who was pregnant with John. Inside the womb, John leaped for joy in the presence of Mary’s unborn baby.

Mary and Joseph lived in Nazareth. When Caesar Augustus called for a census, they traveled to Bethlehem—the very place the Messiah was prophesied to be born (Micah 5:2). There, in a stable, God the Son entered the world as a baby.

Imagine the shepherds’ surprise when an angel of the Lord suddenly appeared. The Bible says that they were terrified! But the angel brought them good news: “Today in the city of David a Savior was born for you, who is the Messiah, the Lord” (Luke 2:11). This Savior—the long-awaited deliverer and redeemer—had come.

Not only did Jesus come into the world as the Savior, He came as our King. Some time after Jesus’ birth, wise men came to worship Jesus. They brought Him gifts suitable for a king—gold,

frankincense, and myrrh. Jesus is the King who will rule forever, just as God promised King David. (See 2 Sam. 7.)

When you share this story with preschoolers, remind them that Jesus came because we needed Him. The purpose of Jesus' birth was twofold: to bring glory to God and to make peace between God and those who trust in Jesus' death and resurrection. Celebrating the birth of Jesus is about rejoicing over the greatest gift we could ever receive. God's own Son came to earth to be our Savior and our King.

KID CONNECT

WELCOME TIME

(VIDEO: ARRIVAL MUSIC)

Play intro music in the background as you greet preschoolers and follow the KidCity check-in procedures. Set out a few favorite theme-related toys, such as puzzles and blocks.

COUNTING ITEMS

(Classroom Items)

Gather several classroom items and invite a child to count to discover how many items there are. Suggest children count other items in the classroom. Count crayons or pairs of scissors. Count books on a shelf or chairs in the classroom. Count Bibles or blocks. Suggest a child count the boys and girls who have come to class.

SAY • When Mary was pregnant with Baby Jesus, the King wanted to know how many people were in his kingdom, so he made everyone travel to his hometown to be counted. Mary and Joseph traveled to Bethlehem. Listen to the Bible story to hear what happened while they were in Bethlehem.

LARGE GROUP

COUNTDOWN

(VIDEO: COUNTDOWN)

Show the countdown video as the children clean up and transition to Large Group.

WORSHIP

(VIDEO: OH, HAPPY DAY, VIDEO: JESUS LOVES ME)

Sing "Oh, Happy Day" and "Jesus Loves Me."

INTRODUCE THE BIBLE STORY

(CG: GIANT TIMELINE)

(Bible, Bookmark, Manger Scene)

Display a manger scene. Encourage preschoolers to name each piece of the manger scene set.

SAY • Do any of you have one of these out at your house during Christmas? Manger scenes remind us of Jesus' birthday. We can talk about Jesus being born any time of the year, not just at Christmas. In fact, today's Bible story is about Jesus' birth. Listen to find out how each piece of this manger scene set fits in the story.

Place a bookmark at Luke 2 in your Bible. Invite a preschooler to open it. Display the open Bible.

SAY • The Book of Luke is where we find today's Bible story. Like all the stories in all the books of the Bible, this story is true!

Point to the Bible story picture on the giant timeline. Remind children that all the stories in the Bible fit together to tell an even bigger story. The Bible tells us the big story of how God saves people through His Son, Jesus.

WATCH THE BIBLE STORY

(VIDEO: JESUS WAS BORN, CG: BIBLE STORY PICTURE, CG: STORY POINT)

Show the Bible story video.

SAY • God planned all along to send His Son to earth as a baby. God knew His people would disobey and need to be saved.

CHRIST CONNECTION

(CG: CHRIST CONNECTION)

SAY • Jesus was born to save people. Jesus is not like other babies; Jesus is God's Son. Jesus never disobeyed God. He always obeyed perfectly, so that one day He could take the punishment we deserve for our wrong choices.

PRACTICE THE KEY PASSAGE

(CG: KEY PASSAGE)

(Bible, Key Passage Marker)

Place the key passage marker at John 1:1. Invite a child to open your Bible to the key passage. Say the key passage using motions.

SAY • "In the beginning was the Word, (*open hands like a book*) and the Word was with God, (*lift book up over head*) and the Word was God. (*point up*)" John 1:1 (*open hands like a book*).

PRAY AND TRANSITION TO SMALL GROUP

SMALL GROUP

Bible Passage: Luke 2

Story Point: Jesus was born to save people.

Key Passage: “In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.” John 1:1

Christ Connection: Jesus was not like other babies. Jesus is God’s Son.

PLAY OUT THE MANGER SCENE

(Manger Scene, 1 per group)

Set out a non-breakable manger scene. Invite preschoolers to use blocks to build the scene. Guide preschoolers to play out the Bible story with the manger scene figures.

SAY • How surprised the shepherds must have been when an angel told them Jesus had been born! They found His mother, Mary, and Baby Jesus. He was wrapped in cloth and lying in a manger. Jesus is God’s Son. He became a baby boy who had a family. Jesus was born to save people.

PRETEND TO TRAVEL

(Transportation Toys, per group)

Talk about different ways to travel: car, boat, airplane, helicopter, horse, bicycle, walking, bus, and so on. Invite preschoolers to play out traveling in these ways.

SAY • Even though many of these ways to travel were not around in Bible times, Mary and Joseph traveled a long way to Bethlehem where Jesus was born. The shepherds also traveled to find Baby Jesus. They found Him and then told others about Him. Jesus was born to save people.

KEY PASSAGE WITH MOTIONS

Say the key passage using motions. Repeat several times and encourage children for trying. “In the beginning was the Word, (*open hands like a book*) and the Word was with God, (*lift book up over head*) and the Word was God. (*point up*)” John 1:1 (*open hands like a book*).

REVIEW

(Bible Story Picture, 1 per group)

Show the Bible story picture as you ask the following questions. Retell parts of the Bible story as needed.

Who were Jesus’ parents on earth? (*Mary and Joseph*)

At what kind of place did Mary have Baby Jesus? (*where animals were kept*)

Who was surprised and amazed? (*everyone who heard about Jesus*)

Why were people amazed to hear that Jesus had been born? (*they had been waiting for Jesus to come and save them.*)

SAY • Mary and Joseph traveled to Bethlehem. Mary had Baby Jesus in a place where animals were kept. The angels told the shepherds the good news that Jesus had been born. The shepherds went to Bethlehem and found Baby Jesus. They told others about Him. Everyone who heard about Jesus was surprised and amazed! They had been waiting for God to send Jesus. Jesus is not like other babies; Jesus is God's Son. Jesus was born to save people.

PRAY

Invite preschoolers to tell you any prayer requests they have.

SAY • God, thank you for sending Jesus to save us just like you said you would. Thank you for always keeping your promises. Help us tell the good news of Jesus to others like the shepherds did. Amen.

CONNECT WITH PARENTS/INFLUENCERS

(Preschool Activity Page, 1 per child, Crayons)

Preschoolers may color the Story Point coloring page as parents arrive. Encourage them to do the activity page at home with their family this week.