



THE GOSPEL PROJECT: ADVENT 4 SR. Jesus is Born!

Date: Sunday December 21, 2025 **Teachers:** Dana H (lead) Denzil H (co-lead)

BIBLE PASSAGE: Luke 2:1-20 **KEY PASSAGE:** John 1:14

Props: from home: at centre: pics in folder, cut out key passage verse ahead of time, cut out masks

Review Rules:

One Mouth speaking at a time (Teacher points to mouths/kids point to their mouths)

Two Hands kept to myself (kids wiggle hands and keep them to themselves)

Two Feet kept to myself (kids cross legs)

Speak Kind words like our God three in ONE!

THE LORD'S PRAYER: FOR THINE IS THE KINGDOM THE POWER AND THE GLORY FOREVER, AMEN!

INTRO BIBLE STORY JR/SR: "Who said that?"

Vicky

materials: (Prepare two baskets with masks to represent each person from the Bible story: Mary, Joseph, Gabriel, and Elizabeth. (in folder))

"Don't be afraid to take Mary as your wife, because the baby she is carrying was put there by the Holy Spirit."
(Gabriel)

"What an honor, Mary! Your baby will be blessed too!" (Elizabeth)

"Nothing will be impossible with God!" (Gabriel)

"How can that happen? I am not married yet." (Mary)

"The baby will be God's Son." (Gabriel)

"I belong to God. May everything happen just as you said." (Mary)

"I will marry Mary." (Joseph)

"Mary is going to have a son; name Him Jesus because He is going to save His people from their sins!" (Gabriel)

"I will go stay with my relative Elizabeth for three months." (Mary)

"Elizabeth in her old age has also conceived a son." (Gabriel)

Angels gave messages to many characters in the story of God coming to rescue us through Jesus, and next week we are going to hear about another message the angels gave to the shepherds:

"Glory to God in the highest and on earth peace and goodwill towards all." Jesus was taking on our humanity and restoring the role of humanity as divine image bearers giving glory to God and peace towards one another. The Messiah is born the angels declared- born to raise the sons of earth, born to give them second birth! He was born to an earthly family to make us a part of God's heavenly family.

THE BIBLE STORY (VIDEO) "THE BIRTH OF CHRIST"

DISCUSSION VIDEO

Brittany

Why is it so hard for us to wait for things? What can happen sometimes when something is promised but we don't see it for a while? Why do you think God waited to send Jesus?

Emphasize that we may not always know or understand God's plan, but we can trust He is good and in control.

JOINT GAME (JR & SR) "Run to Bethlehem"

Dana

The Bible says that after the angels had given the shepherds the good news of Jesus' birth, the shepherds went "quickly" to find Mary, Joseph, and Jesus. They were excited to see Jesus for themselves. When they saw Jesus,

they were so excited that they told everyone about everything they had seen. They were the first people to tell the good news: Jesus was born to be God's promised Savior.

Form two teams of kids and invite them to line up in single file on one end of the room. Designate a finish line on the opposite end of the room. Explain to the kids that the first kid in each line must run to "Bethlehem," touch the floor, and run back to tell the next kid in line "the Savior is born!" Then she will move to the back of the line and the next kid will run to Bethlehem. The first team to complete the task wins.

DISMISS JR KIDS & GR.1'S

KEY PASSAGE VERSE: (write the verse on cut out ornaments shapes kids have to put the verse in order)

Dana & Denzil

John 1:14 "So the word became flesh and made his home among us. We have seen his glory, the glory of the one and only Son, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth."

This verse talks about the wonder of the incarnation! God took on our flesh. GOD DID THAT. And God didn't just come as a king on earth, but as a baby. The Highest One took on the lowest position. Incarnation is abstract-but it literally means to take on flesh: Divine love took on flesh to show us that love.

(write the verse on cut out ornaments shapes kids have to put the verse in order)

BIBLE STORY REVIEW *materials:* (play like family feud style/ slap hand or buzzer)

Denzil

Just as God chose ordinary people to be His Son's earthly parents, He chose to share the good news with unlikely people first. The shepherds found out Jesus was born to be God's promised Savior. The birth of Jesus was good news! Jesus was not an ordinary baby. God left the very throne of heaven to come to the lowest place, our God loves us so much!

Ask the following review questions:

Where did Mary and Joseph travel for the census? (Bethlehem, Luke 2:4)

Where did Baby Jesus sleep? (in a feeding trough, Luke 2:7)

To whom did the angel first appear with the good news? (shepherds, Luke 2:8-9)

Who did the angel say Jesus is? (the Savior, Christ the Lord; Luke 2:11)

What did the shepherds say: **"Glory to God in the Highest and on earth peace to all upon whom His favour rests!"**

The shepherds just received the best news of all! God was going to bring His peace to earth, by coming in His son Jesus Christ.

BONUS VIDEO: DESCRIBE THE ULTIMATE PARTY: Play the video for Unit 17 Discussion Starter. Ask the kids to discuss what their ultimate birthday party would be. Then contrast that with how Jesus was born (use the whiteboard if you wish to contrast the elements)

GROUP ACTIVITY: Divide into two teams and compete to complete the grid sheet **materials: (grid activity sheet)**

ACTIVITY "class census"

Does anyone know what a census is? (allow kids to answer) Isn't it neat that God used an unbelieving emperor's census to bring Mary and Joseph to Bethlehem at just the right time for Jesus to be born? Long ago, God had said through the prophet Micah that the Messiah would be born in Bethlehem. That's exactly what happened. The first people to hear about Jesus being born were shepherds who were watching sheep in the fields. Back in Bible times, shepherds were not important people. Most people wouldn't invite a shepherd to come straight from the fields and visit a new baby. Shepherds were probably covered with mud, and they probably smelled like sheep! The shepherds sought out baby Jesus, they were told they would find him wrapped in swaddling clothes and lying in a manger and the star of Bethlehem would be over the place where he lay.

We're going to look for clues in our class and have a bit of a census. Look for the person who has this "marker"
Everyone runs to form a circle around them.
(ie. short hair, curly hair, blue sweater, has 3 sisters etc.)

GR.2-5 WORK ON ACTIVITY SHEET: Mary's Motto