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Jesus Is Born!

Scripture: Luke 2:1-20

Theme: God sent His Son as a baby to save the world

PreK-K (Ages 3-5)

Free curriculum for small and rural churches

Lesson Overview

Lesson Overview: Jesus Is Born! God was so kind and full of love that He sent His very own Son into the world. Imagine a tiny baby wrapped in soft blankets, lying in a special manger. Jesus was born in a quiet place, just like you might snuggle up in your bed to rest and dream. Jesus grew up to show everyone how to love and forgive, just like a kind parent gives hugs. This baby grew into the greatest friend anyone ever had, He wanted to help you and me! We can wonder and smile at how God brought Jesus into the world. Just like we share our toys and smile at friends, Jesus shared His love with all the world. What a wonderful gift!

Optional reflection: children can draw a picture of Jesus helping their friends, then share one way they can help someone else this week. This extra activity supports the lesson's theme and gives teachers a simple, low-prep option for extending the discussion.

Bible Story

The Big Birthday of Jesus

Once, long ago, in a tiny town called Bethlehem, a special baby was born. Mary, who was very kind, had been told by God that her baby would be the Savior of the world. Joseph, Mary's husband, was a kind worker who traveled with them from Nazareth to Bethlehem. The whole family traveled together, Mary, Joseph, and the baby Jesus.

When they arrived, the town was full of people making a big trip, too. There was no room for Mary and Joseph in the warm, cozy inn, but God had a plan. A kind shepherd, who watched his sheep in the fields, heard special angels singing a wonderful song. "Glory to God in the highest!" they sang. The shepherds were so happy! They ran to the baby Jesus in a manger, a feeding trough, and saw Him with Mary and Joseph. They worshiped Him and shared the good news with everyone.

The baby Jesus was born to save us! Just like the shepherds, we can give Him our love and trust. This story shows us that God always has a way to make His children happy, even when things seem small or full. When we see kindness, wonder, and love in our lives, we can remember how Jesus, the greatest gift of all, brought joy to the world!

Why This Story Matters: Jesus' birth is like a big, wonderful surprise from God! Just as the shepherds found Him and worshiped Him, we can choose to love Him every day. This story reminds us that God loves us so much, He even sent His Son to be with us!

Key Verse

Luke 2:11 , 'Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; He is the Messiah, the Lord.'

Oh, this is a super-duper good news story! God sent the very best gift! A baby came as a surprise, A Savior, so kind and wise, To be your friend forevermore! He's the King who loves us too! Like a star shining bright, He came to hold our hands, To make us feel safe and light! Wow! Can you see how small? This baby is God's big plan! He chose to be a tiny child, To bring us all His joyful land! He's here now, what a wonder! For you and for me, A Savior, a Lord, A love we can feel!

Activities

Activity 1:

Kids create their own "wondering star" to share with the class, helping them remember how the wise men found Jesus by following the star's light.

1. Paint the star shine bright! Give each child a paper plate. Say, "Just like the star in the story, let's make one that makes us wonder!" Have them paint the plate yellow or draw a star shape with white paint.
2. Glue and wonder! Let the paint dry, then have kids glue on star cutouts (if using) or draw rays with crayons. Ask: "Why do you think the star led the wise men?"
3. Share your star! Place a Bible verse (Luke 2:10-11) on the table: "We have good news for you: A Savior is born! He will be Lord over Israel!" Each child shares how their star reminds them of Jesus.
4. Sing and repeat! Play "Mary Did You Know?" (simple version) to end with joy. Repeat the verse together: "A Savior is born!"

Activity 2:

Kids make a tiny blanket to represent baby Jesus, helping them see how God wrapped him carefully, just like he wrapped them in love!

1. Wrap with love! Give each child brown paper. Say, "Just like God wrapped baby Jesus in swaddling clothes, let's make a little blanket!" Have them tear or fold the paper into a small square.
2. Fill with wonder! Glue cotton balls on one side to look like swaddling cloth. Ask: "What does it mean to be wrapped in love?" Write "God loves you!" on the paper with a crayon.
3. Add a baby face! Let them draw a tiny baby Jesus on the other side (or use a sticker). Say: "Just like Jesus was born, we are God's special gifts!"
4. Share and sing! Each child holds up their blanket. Read Luke 2:7-9 together: "God put him in a manger... the angels sang, 'Glory to God!'" End with "God loves you!" repeated together.

Discussion Questions

- Here are four open-ended discussion questions about Jesus being born to help little ones explore wonder and connection:
- Sharing Joy

- Imagine the night was so quiet and full of stars, just like in the story. What sounds do you think Mary and Joseph might have heard? What sounds make you feel happy in your home? Why do you think the shepherds were so excited to see the baby Jesus?
- Wondering About Baby Jesus
 - The angels sang, "Good news for all people!", what do you think that means? If you were one of the shepherds, how would you feel when you saw the baby Jesus in the stable? Why is it special that God chose to be with us as a baby?
- Following the Star
 - The wise men traveled far to see Jesus. What do you think made them know which way to go? If you were one of them, what would you bring as a gift? Why do you think Jesus was special enough to guide them all the way?
- God's Love in Our Lives
 - The shepherds told everyone, "Today we've found the Savior!", what does that mean? How can we share love like the angels or shepherds do? If you could give a gift to a friend or family member, what would you pick? Why does Jesus' birth remind us God loves us so much?

Prayer Focus

"Jesus Is Born!" Dear God, in the night so dark and cold, You sent a star so bright and bold! Mary, Joseph, and baby Jesus, Were wrapped in love, so warm, so free! Oh, wonder in the sky so high, One star shone bright for me! God chose to be close, just like this, To bring us His light, His love, His peace! Now as we sing and share the news, Let all our hearts be filled with ease. Jesus is born, so happy, so true, He came to help us, now and for you! Thank You, God, for sending light, For all the joy that you give us tonight!

>> Missions Spotlight

The shepherds were the first to hear about Jesus' birth. Today, nomadic and herding peoples around the world , from the Maasai in East Africa to the Mongolian herders in Central Asia , connect deeply with the shepherd story. The Good Shepherd came for ALL His sheep.

-> To the Cross

Jesus was born in a stable, laid in a feeding trough. The Creator of the universe came as a helpless baby. Why? So He could grow up and go to the cross to save us. The manger and the cross are connected , He was born to die for us.