

Jesus' birth



Joseph and Mary travelled from Nazareth to Bethlehem to register for the census. While they were in Bethlehem, Jesus was born. The angel of the Lord told shepherds of Jesus' birth. The shepherds went and worshipped Jesus.

Jesus' birth



Welcome all the Children/Young people and discuss their week. What did they get up to at school? What do they remember from last week's lesson? What things have they been praying and asking God for? **Start with Prayer**



Matthew 1:18-24 and Luke 2:1-38

It's time to read the bible together. Maybe someone would like to volunteer to read it, or perhaps we could read it together?



Click here to [Watch](#) together AND USE THE STORY IN THIS PACK TO READ.



- **Who was the mother of Jesus?** (Mary)
- **Who was Mary's husband?** (Joseph)
- **In what city was Jesus born?** (Bethlehem)
- **Why did Joseph and Mary go to Bethlehem?** (To register for the census)
- **What did baby Jesus have for his first cot or bed?** (A manger)
- **To whom did the angels tell the good news of Jesus' birth?** (Shepherds)
- **What did the shepherds do when they heard about Jesus' birth?** (They went to find Jesus and told Mary and Joseph what they had seen and heard from the angel)
- **What was special about Jesus?** (He was God's Son, and he was sent to save all the people in the world)
- **What did Simeon do when he saw Jesus at the Temple?** (He blessed Jesus, spoke about him, and told Mary that some sad things would happen with Jesus)
- **Who else wanted to see Jesus at the Temple?** (Anna, an elderly prophetess who believed Jesus was the Saviour)



1. Use the cut out template to create your Jesus in a Manger.
2. You will need colouring pens, scissors, and glue.
3. It might help to prepare for the kids in advance.
4. Stick the manger to the picture and you have a 3D manger coloured in!



MEMORY

For God loved the world so much that he gave his only Son. God gave his Son so that whoever believes in him may not be lost, but have eternal life

John 3:16

memory verse take home cut

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ways to introduce

(Make a poster using baby photos from the children and others in the church – both young and old.

Be sure to include your own.

Some pictures of teens in the congregation would also interest the children.) Let children guess who each of the babies is.

Name the Father and Mother of each one mentioned and possibly where they were born. "Today we are going to learn about a very special baby. This is a baby who was sent especially by God.

His mother's name was Mary. Can anyone guess who His Father was?

This baby was the Son of God.

Today we are going to learn about how God sent His own son as a special gift to everyone in the world."

THE STORY

Joseph and Mary lived in the town of Nazareth. They were “betrothed”, which meant they were planning to get married.

But before Joseph and Mary actually lived together or got married, Mary had a visit from the angel Gabriel to tell her she was going to have a baby. This baby was going to be special, and she was to name him “Jesus.” Mary’s baby would be the saviour of the world.

Mary’s unborn baby did not have a father on earth. He was different from all other babies because His father was God.

Something like this had never happened before, so it was very difficult for Joseph to understand. The angel came to Joseph in a dream and explained what it meant and what God wanted Joseph to do. After Joseph woke up, he married Mary so he could take care of her and the baby just like a father would.

Joseph and Mary lived in a town called Nazareth.

The Romans were in charge of the country. One day, the ruler of the country, Caesar Augustus, sent a letter to all the regions he ruled saying that all the people had to go to the city where their families came from. Every person in the family had to be counted. This was called a census. He wanted to know exactly how many people there were because he wanted everyone to pay taxes.

Since Joseph’s family had originally come from a little town called Bethlehem, that is where he went to be counted for the census.

Bethlehem was a long way from Nazareth.

Of course, there were no planes or cars back then.

People had to walk or ride animals. They packed up their things because Joseph and Mary had to do what the king commanded. Mary rode a donkey while Joseph walked beside her. They began their trip to Bethlehem.

THE STORY pt 2

When they arrived, they found the roads very crowded with people. They searched for a place to stay, but all the houses were filled with other people who had come to Bethlehem for the same reason. It was growing very late. Mary was tired. It was almost time for her baby to be born. Joseph was also tired and needed a place to rest.

But God had not forgotten Mary and Joseph. He took care of them. They found a place where animals were kept and were glad to find a quiet place to rest after their long journey.

During the night, a wonderful thing happened. Mary had her baby. Mary was so happy. It was a son, just as the angel had said. He was the Son of God. Joseph and Mary gave Him the name of "Jesus."

Joseph looked for a place to put the newborn baby. He found a box full of straw. This was the kind of box that farmers put hay in so the animals could eat from it. It was called a manger. Mary fixed the straw and put a piece of cloth on it. Then she wrapped the baby tightly and placed Him in the warm straw.

Meanwhile, outside the city, some shepherds were watching over their flocks of sheep in the quiet night.

Suddenly, a great light filled the dark sky. They had never seen anything like it before. It was night, but a bright light showed around the angel.

The angel spoke to them. He said, "Do not be afraid. I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people.

Today, in the town of David a Saviour has been born to you; He is Christ the Lord. This will be a sign to you: You will find a baby wrapped in cloths and lying in a manger."

Suddenly, there was not only one angel but, instead, many angels praising God, saying, "Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace to men on whom His favour rests!"

After this, the angels returned to heaven.

THE STORY pt 3

Once the angels had left, the shepherds left their sheep and hurried into the town of Bethlehem. The angel had said that the baby would be born in "the town of David." Everyone knew that another name for the city of David was Bethlehem, so that is where they went!

The shepherds found Joseph, Mary, and the baby just as the angels said. They told Mary and Joseph all about the wonderful sight of the angels in the middle of the great light and the wonderful words they said.

The shepherds were glad they found this special baby whose birth made even the angels happy.

Of all the gifts anyone could ever give, the shepherds knew that God's gift was the best. God had given this little baby to the world.

Joseph and Mary cared for their new baby and were careful to follow all religious rules for Jewish families. Their baby son was circumcised on the eighth day after he was born and then they took him to the Temple in Jerusalem when he was only a few weeks old.

At the Temple, they were spotted by an elderly man named Simeon. Simeon was a very good man who understood that God was going to send someone to help all of the Jewish people and even the whole world.

He had been waiting and waiting. Earlier, the Holy Spirit had come to him and told him that he would get to see the Christ before he died.

Then, the Holy Spirit led Simeon straight to them on the day Joseph and Mary brought little Jesus.

Simeon was so happy to see this very important baby.

He took Jesus into his arms and blessed him. He said that Jesus would bring salvation to the world. Some people would accept Jesus, and some people would not. He told Mary that it would not always be easy.

Sometimes, things would happen to her son, and that would make her sad.

THE STORY pt 4

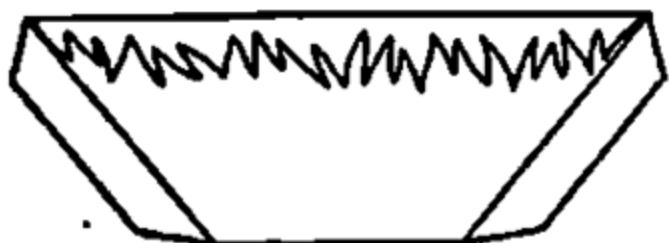
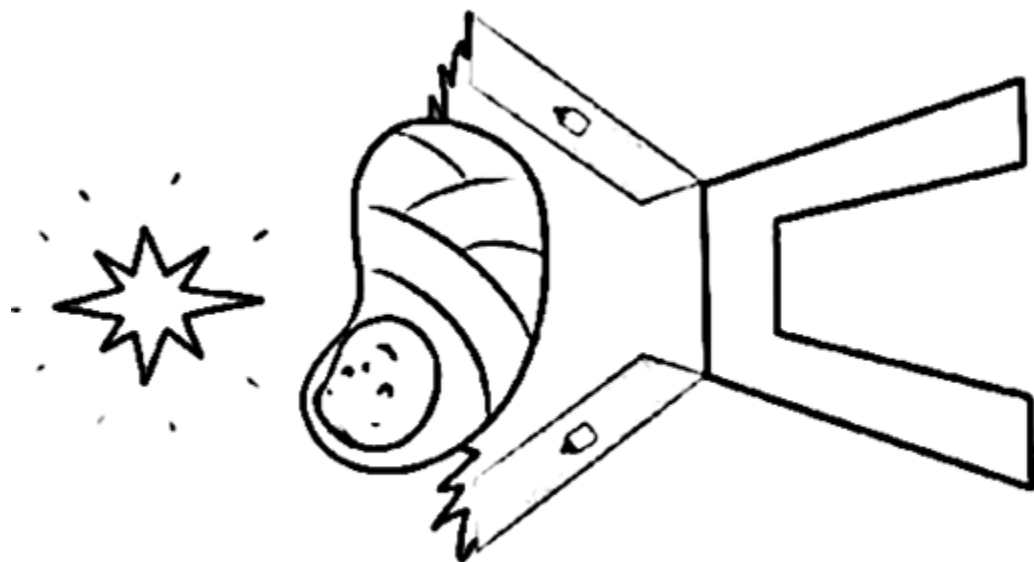
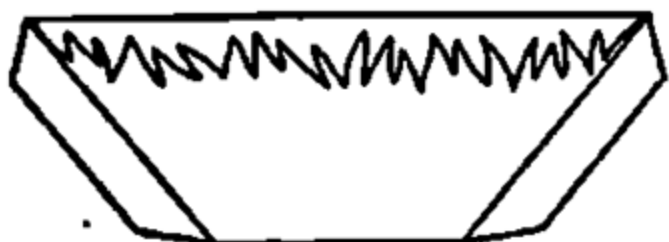
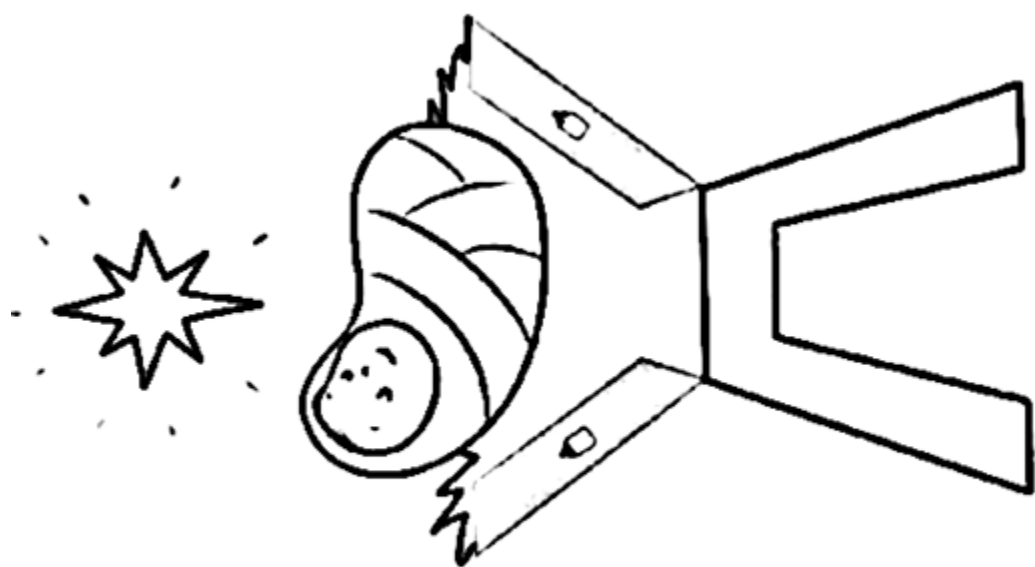
Anna, an elderly prophetess who lived at the Temple, overheard Simeon talking about Jesus. She knew that this baby was special. From then on, Anna talked about Jesus to everyone willing to hear.

God sent his Son, Jesus, to the earth to save us.

The birth of Jesus was the arrival of an amazing gift for the whole world!

A large, light blue, stylized letter 'W' logo is centered on the page. The 'W' is composed of thick, rounded strokes and is set against a background of a large, faint, light blue circle that spans most of the page's width and height.

cut outs



colouring in



colouring in

