



THE STORY OF THE BIRTH OF JESUS



Savior: The Story of the Birth of Jesus

Christmas time is one of the best times of the year. It is full of joy, gift, and the celebration of the birth of Jesus. This study is all about the birth of our savior and the impact that He would have on this world.

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Christ Is Coming Week 1

This lesson tells of the coming of Jesus Christ and how important it is to our lives. Today we look at the story of the Virgin Mary and her encounter with an Angel that tasks her with birthing the savior of the world.

Learning Activities

 <u>Book of Questions</u>: What is the most embarrassing thing you have seen someone else do?

Learning Readiness

<u>Say:</u> Today, we are focusing on the angel that came to Mary to tell her that she would birth the savior of the world.

Ask: What made Jesus the Savior of the world?

Bible Study

Lesson Objective: This lesson tells of the coming of Jesus Christ and how important it is to our lives. Today we look at the story of the Virgin Mary and her encounter with an Angel that tasks her with birthing the savior of the world.

Read: Luke 1:26-38

26 In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent from God to a city of Galilee named Nazareth, 27 to a virgin betrothed a to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. And the virgin's name was Mary. 28 And he came to her and said, "Greetings, O favored one, the Lord is with you!" 29 But she was greatly troubled at the saying, and tried to discern what sort of greeting this might be. 30 And the angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. 31 And behold, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus. 32 He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High. And the Lord God will give to him the throne of his father David, 33 and he will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end." 34 And Mary said to the angel, "How will this be, since I am a virgin?" 35 And the angel answered her, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born^[d] will be called holy—the Son of God. 36 And behold, your relative Elizabeth in her old age has also conceived a son, and this is the sixth month with her who was called barren. 37 For nothing will be impossible with God." 38 And Mary said, "Behold, I am the servant_[e] of the Lord; let it be to me according to your word." And the angel departed from her.

Knowledge Questions

- 1. Who are the people that are mentioned in this story?
- 2. What did the angel tell Mary?
- 3. What was Mary's instant reaction to what the Angel told her?

Comprehension/Understanding Questions

- 1. How did Mary's answer change by then end of the conversation with the angel?
- 2. Why do you think Mary "found favor with God" as it says in this passage?

Applications Questions

- 1. If you were Mary or Joseph how would you react?
- 2. How can we apply this passage of scripture to our lives? What makes this so important and relevant to the Christian faith?

Synthesis Questions

- How would you summarize this story to someone who has never heard this story before?
- 2. How does this story change your mind about Christmas? Does it seem more intimate or the same?

Evaluation Questions

1. If you were to evaluate your life, would you say you are living as if Christ is coming?

Conclusion

In this passage, Jesus is coming. The Christmas season is fun and joyful but we are celebrating the savior of the world entering the world. Mary's encounter with the angel Gabriel

Announcements

Leaders, communicate any announcements for your group and the ministry.

God With Us

Week 2

The Savior has come! Jesus has been born and God is with us. This lesson is all about the birth of Christ and God coming into this world in human form through a woman named Mary.

Learning Activities

• <u>Book of Questions</u>: If someone were to make a movie about you and your life what actress/actor would you want to play you in the movie?

Learning Readiness

Say: Today, we are focusing on the birth of Jesus.

Ask: What does "God with us" mean?

Bible Study

Lesson Objective: This lesson is all about the birth of Christ and God coming into this world in human form through a woman named Mary.

Read: Luke 2:1-7

In those days a decree went out from Caesar Augustus that all the world should be registered. 2 This was the first registration when a Quirinius was governor of Syria. 3 And all went to be registered, each to his own town. 4 And Joseph also went up from Galilee, from the town of Nazareth, to Judea, to the city of David, which is called Bethlehem, because he was of the house and lineage of David, 5 to be registered with Mary, his betrothed, betrothed,

Knowledge Questions

- 1. What is a manger?
- 2. Why was Jesus in a manger?

Comprehension/Understanding Questions

- Who was Joseph? Was he happy about Mary being pregnant at first? (Matthew 1:18-25)
- 2. Can you describe what the decree that Caesar Augustus was? What did it mean that people had to be registered?

Applications Questions

- 1. Everyone was preparing for the coming of a savior, how can we prepare for the return of Jesus?
- 2. If you were Mary or Joseph how would you react to being the earthly parents of the savior of the world? Would you be scared, excited, anxious? Explain your answer.

Synthesis Questions

READ: Psalm 51:5 (David's Prayer of repentance after his encounter with Bathsheba);

Romans 3:23

1. Was Jesus born into sin?

2. Why is it important that Jesus was sinless? (without sin.)

Evaluation Questions

- Can you explain why it is important that Jesus was born in the city of Bethlehem? (*Micah 5:2*)
- 2. Can you summarize the text we have read today? Put it into your own words!

Conclusion

The good news at the end of this scripture is that God is with us. He has come in human form, through a virgin, and His name is Jesus. It is amazing to think that this baby named Jesus will and has been ridiculed, mocked, and hated yet love us and those who mock him so much that he would be willing to die the most brutal form of death so that we could be forgiven of our sin.

Announcements

Leaders, communicate any announcements for your group and the ministry.

Go and See

Week 3

The savior of the world has arrived, and it was time for the Shepherds and Angels to go and see the newborn baby Jesus. The Shepherds and Angels could do nothing more than give God all the glory and praise.

Learning Activities

• Book of Questions: What is a weird food combination that you enjoy?

Learning Readiness

Say: Today, we are seeing how people responded to the savior of the world.

Ask: When you gave your life to Christ, how did it change how you viewed the world?

Bible Study

Lesson Objective: We should strive to be servants and leaders just like the Shepherds. Everyone involved in the birth of Jesus is important as they all serve a purpose, just like you and I have a purpose. Upon the Savior's birth, all the Shepherds and Angels could do was glorify the father.

Read: Luke 2:8-20

8 And in the same region there were shepherds out in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night. 9 And an angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were filled with great fear. 10 And the angel said to them, "Fear not, for behold, I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people. 11 For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord. 12 And this will be a sign for you: you will find a baby wrapped in swaddling cloths and lying in a manger." 13 And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God and saying, 14 "Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace among those with whom he is pleased!"[a] 15 When the angels went away from them into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, "Let us go over to Bethlehem and see this thing that has happened, which the Lord has made known to us." 16 And they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the baby lying in a manger. 17 And when they saw it, they made known the saying that had been told them concerning this child. 18 And all who heard it wondered at what the shepherds told them. 19 But Mary treasured up all these things, pondering them in her heart. 20 And the shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.

Knowledge Questions

- 1. Why were the angels and shepherds coming to Bethlehem?
- 2. How did the shepherds respond when they saw Jesus? What about the angels?

Comprehension/Understanding Questions

- 1. Can you explain why the shepherds were fearful of the presence of the angel at first?
- 2. How do you recognize when God is speaking to you?

Applications Questions

1. How can we apply the shepherd's eagerness to go to Bethlehem to our spiritual lives?

2. Not only was the savior born, but the Bible tells us that Jesus is coming back. How should we prepare for the return of Jesus?

Synthesis Questions

- 1. How would you summarize this story to someone who is not a believer?
- 2. What helps you to keep seeking Jesus?

Evaluation Questions

- How would you compare how you viewed Christmas when you were younger to how you view it now?
- 2. What did you learn during these three weeks of studying the birth of Jesus?

Conclusion

Jesus has arrived and now the savior of the world is here. He would soon begin his ministry and his journey to the Cross. The Christmas season is more than just family gatherings and presents under a tree. This season is a celebration of the Savior of the world coming to earth for us.

Announcements

Leaders, communicate any announcements for your group and the ministry.