

# Just Us Little Guys

*A Series of Bible Study Lessons  
For Preschool to First Grade Children  
(4-7 Years Old)*

## Series 2

## Christmas

Lesson 1	What is Christmas?
Lesson 2	The Promise of a Savior King/ Journey to Bethlehem
Lesson 3	No Room in the Inn
Lesson 4	Of Shepherds and Angels
Lesson 5	Wise Men from Afar
Lesson 6	The Flight to Egypt (God Watches over Baby Jesus)

## Using these Lessons

### Each of these lessons:

- Is designed to work with children, ages 4-7 years old
- May be used separately, or in a series of lessons
- Is Bible-based and Christ-honoring

### Each of these lessons consists of 7 parts:

<u>Teacher Pep Talk:</u>	A few words of encouragement written especially for you, the teacher who will present the lesson. You'll also find a few Bible verses to review prior to teaching the lesson.
<u>What You will Need:</u>	A list of items you will need to present the lesson. Review over the suggested activities to see if you need any items for the ones you choose.
<u>Major Points:</u>	A list of the major points to be made during the lesson.
<u>Memory Verse:</u>	A verse of appropriate length for the age of the children.
<u>Lesson:</u>	Step by step ideas for presenting the Major Points to the children. Use your own words, embellish with your own stories or examples.
<u>Prayer:</u>	Pray with and for the children
<u>Suggested Activities:</u>	Games, crafts, or activities that allow the children to respond to the Lesson

### Teaching Tips:

**Read** over the **Teacher Pep Talk** and review the suggested **Bible Verses** in advance, so that the Bible truths will be in your own heart before you try to teach the children....

***This is the secret of being a good teacher!***

**Suggested Activities** are just that... **Suggestions**. You may think of even better games, crafts, drawings or activities to do with the children. If so, then **DO THEM!** Remember, you have different gifts and talents than anyone else. You may have different resources available. Ask God to help you be creative in ways to reach out to the children with His message!

The **Major Points** are the ideas that are to be conveyed to the children during the Lesson. These are stated in very simple terms, but they are vast concepts to propose. Children are amazing in that they can understand these very big things, even if they are stated in very simple words. Perhaps this is why our Savior instructed us that the Kingdom of Heaven belonged to "such as these".

**Each time** you teach children **YOU SHOULD NOT FAIL TO DO THESE 3 THINGS:**

- LISTEN to them
- PRAY with and for them
- Let them see you READ from THE BIBLE

**LISTEN:** Sit on the floor with the children and ask them how their week went. Then LISTEN to the various children as they tell you something that is on their heart or mind. Often this takes time and effort, but the children NEED to be able to tell you about them, so that you can connect.

**PRAY:** At the beginning of your time together, pray with the children and for the children. You may wish to pray for some of their concerns or for your time together. Ask God to help you teach the lesson so that they will be blessed by it. Do this out loud. Children need to know that you pray and that they can pray as well.

**READ from the BIBLE:** Hold the Bible in your hands or in your lap and let the children **SEE** you read a verse from it. It is good for them to know that there is a reference where we may go to seek God's answers. If they see you read from it, they will learn that they may do so as well.

God bless you as you work with the children to present these great spiritual truths to them! May your work in the field bring a great harvest for the Kingdom of God!

With love in Christ,

*Sharon*

## What is Christmas to You?

Teacher Pep Talk: Talk about fun! You get to talk to a room full of young children about what Christmas means to them! Be ready to be amazed! They will have a lot to tell you. You will hear about all of the Christmas traditions they have, and what they want for Christmas, and... well, just about everything else! If it's red and white, or goes "Ho-Ho-Ho"... believe me, you're going to hear about it!

Then comes the most fun of all! You get to tell them what Christmas is all about! You get to tell them about the fact that Jesus, the Son of God was born, and that the reason we have Christmas is because we are celebrating His birth!

### **"HO-HO" SPOILER ALERT!**

*You don't have to be the "hatchet man" about the "Ho-Ho" part of Christmas, but if someone asks, you can say, "There is a pretend part of Christmas, and a real part of Christmas. (Wink at the older children here!) The pretend part may go away one day, but the real part never will. The real part of Christmas is that Jesus was born, and no one can ever take that part away!" I have given this answer many times and it works. (Let their parents talk to them later...)*

You will need: Birthday cake or cupcakes, and/or frosting and small plastic bags.

Major Points: At Christmas we celebrate Jesus' birthday!  
Mary was Jesus' mother.  
God is Jesus' father.

Scripture Ref. Luke 1:26-38 (Mary is told about Jesus)

Memory Verse: Luke 1:31 You will ...give him the name Jesus.

Lesson: **What holiday is coming up soon?**

- Christmas... Of course, Christmas!

### **What does Christmas mean to you?**

- *(Listen to each child tell about Christmas. They may want to tell you how they celebrate Christmas at their house. Listen with interest. Say affirming things.)*
- All of these things, that we do with our family, are good things that help us celebrate Christmas! I'm so glad you celebrate with your family and friends!

### **Today I want to tell you the reason we have Christmas.**

- The reason we have Christmas is to celebrate Jesus' birth!
- Jesus is the Son of God.
- A long time ago Jesus was born here, and that is why we celebrate Christmas. It is Jesus' birthday!!

**Mary was Jesus' mother.**

- Mary was the name of the woman who had baby Jesus.
- She was Jesus' mommy.

**One day an angel came to see Mary.**

- The angel told her that she was going to have a baby.
- The baby was going to be God's Son.
- The angel told her that she was to name the baby, Jesus.

**God is Jesus' Father.**

- God the Father called Jesus His "One and Only Son."
- God is Jesus' daddy.
- God loved us very much to send His Son here.
- We celebrate this by having Christmas each year!

Prayer: Let's pray and thank God for sending His Son, Jesus!

Dear God,  
Thank you that you love us.  
Thank you for sending your Son, Jesus, to be here with us.  
Thank you for Christmas.  
We love you. Amen.

Suggested Activities: (Pick and choose the activities that work best for you!)

**Have a Birthday Party!**

- Sing "Happy Birthday" to Jesus
  - Sing the traditional "Happy Birthday" with Jesus' name in it!
- Have Birthday Cake (optional)
  - **For extra fun, coordinate this activity with your snacks.** Have a cake (or cupcakes) with a candle on top for Jesus' Birthday. Have the person whose birthday is closest to December 25<sup>th</sup> blow out the birthday candle.
- Talk some more about Jesus' Birthday
  - Tell the children it has been over 2000 years since Jesus was born. (*That would be a LOT of candles!!*) Explain that we still celebrate Jesus' birth because it was such an important thing that happened!
- Play Christmas music quietly in the background while children eat and play.
  - One suggestion: "Happy Birthday, Jesus" by Carol Cymbala. Copyright 1992 by Word Music LLC, a division of Word Music, Inc.
- Play some typical "birthday party" games
  - EX: Pin the Tail on the Donkey, Musical Chairs, Duck-Duck-Goose, etc.

**"Cake Decorating"**

Copy the attached coloring page of a plain birthday cake with Jesus' name on it. Provide markers or crayons and allow the children to "decorate" the cake by coloring it. (**Alternatively:** *Tape a copy of the page on the table. Cover with a sheet of plastic wrap and tape that down too. Place a little frosting in a small plastic bag for each child and twist it shut, or seal it. Snip off one tiny corner at the bottom. Now, gently squeeze the bag to "decorate the cake" with real frosting! Devour the results!! Wipe clean!*)

# Jesus is God's Son!

Happy Birthday  
JESUS

## The Promise of a Savior King (The Journey to Bethlehem)

Teacher Pep Talk: Imagine the excitement all those years ago! Everyone was waiting for the promised Savior and King. They knew that one day soon He would be born in Bethlehem. Despite this, most of them missed His coming. No one seemed to notice a humble carpenter and his betrothed wife traveling to Bethlehem to be counted in the census. But God's Son was about to be born, just as it had been foretold in the scriptures... and just like the angel had told Mary and Joseph!

Help the children see that we need to look back and notice the things that happened around the time of Jesus' birth. We need to realize that God was keeping His promise to send us a Savior King!

You will need: Cotton balls, glue, and crayons for the suggested craft.

Major Points: God had promised that the Savior was to be born in Bethlehem.  
An angel talked to Mary and Joseph.  
Mary and Joseph traveled to Bethlehem.  
The Savior, God's Son (Jesus) would be born soon!  
God was keeping His promises!

Scripture Ref. Micah 5:2 "Bethlehem ...out of you will come... one who will be ruler over Israel, whose origins are from of old, from ancient times."

Memory Verse: Matthew 2:1 ...Jesus was born in Bethlehem...

Lesson: **Christmas is getting closer!!**

- Christmas will be here soon! We celebrate Christmas every year! Why do we celebrate Christmas? (*Wait for answers.*)
- That's right! Christmas is when we celebrate Jesus' birthday!
- Today we're going to talk about WHY Jesus was born.

**God made a promise to send a Savior King.**

- A long time ago God made a promise to send us a Savior.
- The word Savior means "someone who saves or rescues."
- That person was Jesus, God's One and Only Son!

**People were waiting for the promise to be kept.**

- When someone makes me a promise, I want them to keep it! Don't you? (*Wait for answers.*) I wait for them to keep their promise. I expect them to do it!
- The people waited for God to keep His promise. They knew that the Savior was to be born in a place called Bethlehem. They waited and they watched. But God had them wait for a long, long time. And some of them forgot to keep watching!

**An Angel talks to Mary and to Joseph.**

- Mary was a wonderful young woman who lived back then.
- One day an angel from God visited Mary.
- The angel told Mary she was going to have a special baby.
- The baby was going to be the Son of God. (The Savior)
- Later, the angel told Joseph too. (Joseph was the man who was going to be Mary's husband.)
- The angel told them they were to name the baby Jesus.

**Mary and Joseph traveled to Bethlehem**

- Mary and Joseph both lived in a place called Nazareth.
- One day, the ruler of the land (Caesar) ordered everyone to return to their hometown, so that they could be counted.
- So Mary traveled with Joseph a long way to Bethlehem, which was his family's original hometown.

**God keeps His promises.**

- Jesus was born in the little town called Bethlehem, just like God had promised all those years before!
- Whenever God makes a promise, He always keeps it!
- God promised to send a Savior, and He did! Jesus, God's One and Only Son, is the promised Savior!
- God always keeps His promises, no matter how big or small.

Prayer: Let's pray and thank God for keeping His promise to send a Savior.

Dear God,  
Thank you for keeping your promises.  
Thank you for sending your Son, Jesus, to be our Savior.  
Thank you for Christmas.  
We love you. Amen.

Suggested Activities: (Pick and choose the activities that work best for you!)

**Cotton Ball Angel Wings**

For this craft, make one copy of the Angel Wings page for each child. Remind the children that the angel came and visited Mary and then Joseph to tell them about baby Jesus! Provide crayons, glue, and cotton balls. First, ask the children to color the angel's face, hair, hands and robe. **(Do NOT color the angel's wings... or the glue might not stick well!)** Next, allow the children to dip the tip of the cotton balls in glue and place them on the angel's wings. *(HINT: Squeeze out a little glue into a small plastic lid. That works fairly well for dipping the cotton balls!)* Allow the angel pages to dry and then let the children take them home.

NOTE: If you keep these an extra day or so, you can make some GREAT Christmas tree decorations! Glue the finished angel page to a sheet of construction paper and allow it to dry. Cut out around the angel. Glue a loop of yarn to the back as a hanger.)



## **Sing Christmas Carols**

### Silent Night

Silent night, Holy night,  
All is calm, All is bright,  
Round yon virgin, mother and child,  
Holy infant, so tender and mild.  
Sleep in heavenly peace.  
Sleep in heavenly peace.

### O, Little Town of Bethlehem

O, little town of Bethlehem,  
How still we see thee lie.  
Above thy deep and dreamless sleep,  
The silent stars go by.  
Yet in thy dark streets shineth,  
The everlasting light.  
The hopes and fears of all the years,  
Are met in thee tonight.

### We Wish You a Merry Christmas

We wish you a Merry Christmas,  
We wish you a Merry Christmas,  
We wish you a Merry Christmas,  
And a Happy New Year!

### Happy Birthday to You

Happy Birthday to You,  
Happy Birthday to You,  
Happy Birthday dear Jesus!  
Happy Birthday to You!

## **Learn the Memory Verse**

The memory verse for the day is Matthew 2:1 ...Jesus was born in Bethlehem...

Use this method:

Say "Jesus was born in Bethlehem"  
*(Have children repeat... just like you.)*

Say "Jesus was born in \_\_\_\_\_"  
*(Have the children fill in the blank.)*

*(Now try repeating either phrase using different tones of voice or while doing different things. Have the children repeat them just like you.)*

Repeat louder, softer, standing, sitting, turning around, and standing on one foot.

Repeat and jump up on the word "Bethlehem"

Does everyone know it now? I bet they do. I bet even the people in the class next to you know it by now! Congratulations!!

“God Keeps His Promises!”



Jesus' Birth was Foretold – Luke 1:26-38

## No Room in the Inn!

Teacher Pep Talk: It is a wonderful thing to be able to teach children about the circumstances surrounding Jesus' birth. Even though Jesus is the Son of God, and the promised Savior and King, He is not born in a fancy palace or in the capital city of Jerusalem. He is born in a humble stable in a little town called Bethlehem. But Bethlehem was a very important place. It had been the hometown of His forefather, David. David had started life as a shepherd, but God later chose him to be a king. David was called "a man after God's own heart."

You will need: Several pieces of paper with an "O" marked on them and one piece of paper with an "X" marked on it, for the game.

Major Points: The Savior was to be born soon.  
Mary and Joseph traveled to Bethlehem.  
There was no room for them in the inn!  
Baby Jesus was born in the stable in Bethlehem.

Scripture Ref. Luke 2:4-7 (KJV) And Joseph also went up from Galilee, out of the city of Nazareth, into Judaea, unto the city of David, which is called Bethlehem; (because he was of the house and lineage of David:) To be taxed with Mary his espoused wife, being great with child. And so it was, that, while they were there, the days were accomplished that she should be delivered. And she brought forth her firstborn son, and wrapped him in swaddling clothes, and laid him in a manger; because there was no room for them in the inn.

Memory Verse: Luke 2:7 ...there was no room for them in the inn.

Lesson: **Christmas will be here soon!!**

- We are all looking forward to Christmas.
- I'm excited! Aren't you? (*Wait for answers.*)
- It's exciting to think about Christmas coming so soon!
- I also like thinking back on all the exciting things that happened a long time ago on that first Christmas, when Jesus was born!

**The Savior was to be born soon!**

- An angel had visited both Mary and Joseph and told them that the baby Jesus was going to be born.
- Jesus was the promised Savior and King!

**Mary and Joseph traveled to Bethlehem.**

- One day, before Jesus was born, the ruler of the land (Caesar) said that everyone had to travel to his family's hometown to be counted.
- Joseph's family was from Bethlehem.
- Mary and Joseph had to travel a long way to go to Bethlehem.

**There was no room for them in the inn!**

- When they arrived, there were many people in Bethlehem!
- Mary and Joseph looked for a place to stay, but there was no room for them in the inn!
- So, Mary and Joseph went to stay in the stable, where the animals were kept.

**Baby Jesus was born in the stable in Bethlehem!**

- While they were there baby Jesus was born!
- Mary wrapped baby Jesus in cloths and laid him in a manger. (A manger was a wooden box filled with hay in the stable.)
- The Savior of the world, God’s Son (Jesus) had been born!
- What a wonderful thing! Praise God!!

**A King in humble surroundings**

- Where do you think most kings are born? (*Wait for answers.*)
- That’s right. Most kings are born in castles or palaces.
- It’s funny, isn’t it? Even though Jesus is the Savior and King of the whole world, He wasn’t born in a fancy palace or castle.
- God didn’t want those things for His Son.
- Jesus was born in a humble stable in the city of His forefather, King David, who had loved God very much.
- This was very important to God! It can be important to us too! When someone is humble, it means they are easy to approach.
- Jesus wants us to know that we can come to Him anytime.
- One way we can come to Him is by praying.

Prayer:

Let’s pray and thank God for sending Jesus to us.

Dear God,  
Thank you for sending your Son, Jesus, to be our Savior.  
Thank you that He came to us so humbly.  
Thank you for Christmas.  
We love you. Amen.

Suggested Activities: (Pick and choose the activities that work best for you!)

**“Quit Stalling”**

This is a great game! The class acts out the story of Mary and Joseph traveling to Bethlehem. Two people play the parts of Mary and Joseph. They carry bundles and travel around the room to get to Bethlehem. The other persons play the inhabitants of Bethlehem. (*These folks each choose a piece of paper with either an “X” or an “O” on it.*) **RULES: Have just one “X” per group. Don’t tell anyone if you have the X or an O!** Have the persons spread out around the room. Mary and Joseph go from person to person asking for a place to stay. Everyone with an “O” tells them “There’s no room in the inn!” Finally they find the person with the “X” on the paper. That person tells them that they may stay in the stable. Mary and Joseph are happy! Play again with other people acting out the parts of Mary and Joseph.

### **What's a Manger?**

Face it. No one knows what a manger is, unless someone else has taught them. Discuss how a manger was a wooden box which was full of straw that the animals used to eat their food out of. Since Mary and Joseph were in a stable, there was a manger nearby because the animals would eat out of it every day.

Recreate the idea of a manger: Use a clean laundry basket. Fill it with towels or blankets. (You can use hay, if feasible.) Have a baby doll available. Wrap the baby doll with light cloths (For example: dish towels) and put the doll in the manger. Allow the children to take turns wrapping the baby and placing it in the manger. Put the blankets in and out a few times. *Make sure that the children treat the baby doll gently and with respect, since it is representing the baby Jesus.*

### **Sing Old McDonald**

Stables mean animals... and animals mean... "Old Mc Donald." If you are a preschool child, this makes sense. Sing "Old McDonald" allowing the children to provide the names of the various animals. Pause a little during the song to give adequate time to make all the appropriate animal sounds! They will love this! Sing LOUD!

### **Old McDonald**

Old McDonald had a farm...

E-I-E-I-O

And on this farm he had a...

*(Stop and ask... "A what?" Wait for an answer, repeat the word, and then continue...)*

E-I-E-I-O

With an \_\_\_\_\_ here,

And an \_\_\_\_\_ there,

Here a \_\_\_\_\_,

There a \_\_\_\_\_,

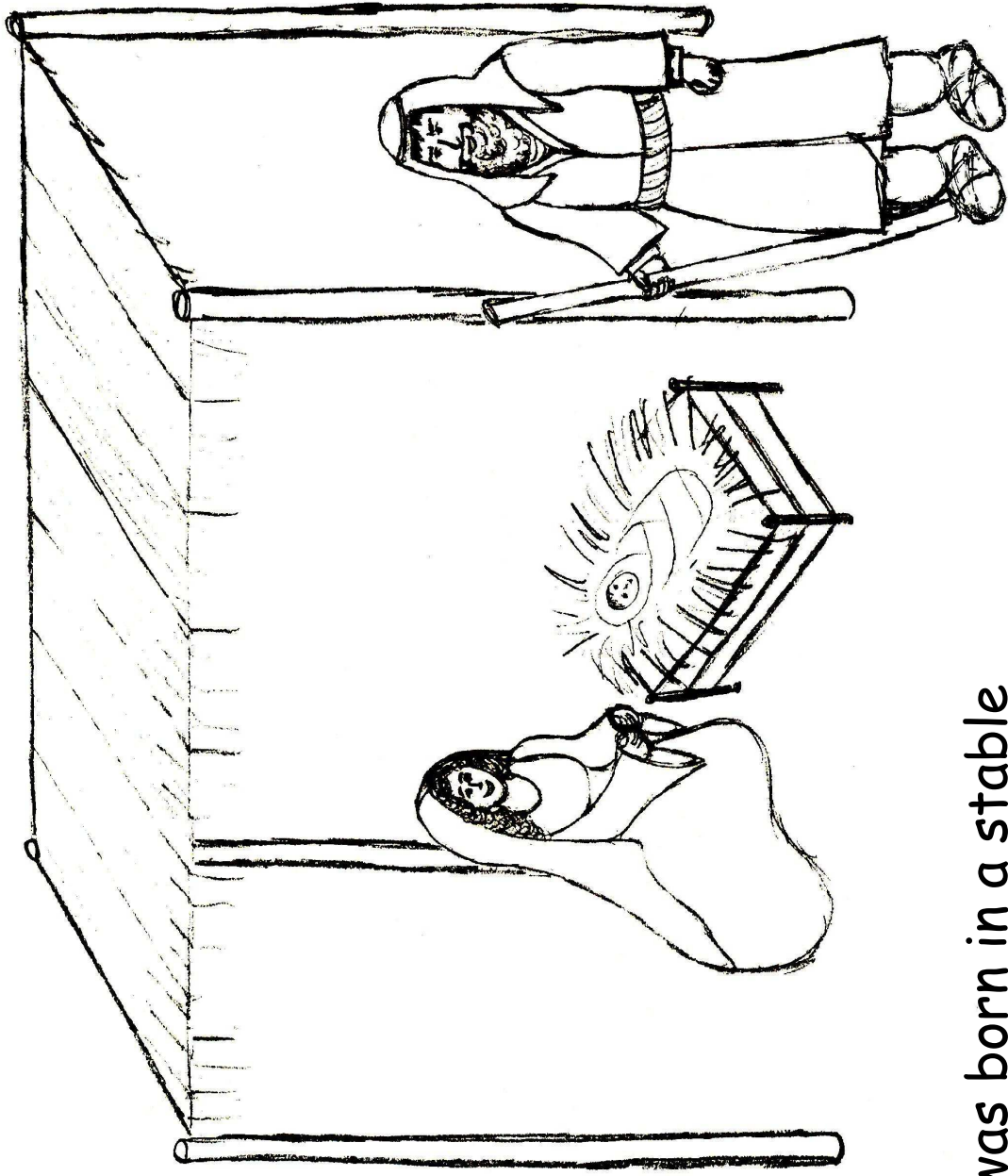
Everywhere a \_\_\_\_\_!

Old McDonald had a farm...

E-I-E-I-O!!

### **Coloring Page**

Use the provided coloring page of the stable and manger. Make a copy for each child and provide crayons or markers. Allow the children time to color the page carefully. Encourage them to draw in some animals around the stable. What kind of animals might have been there? (EX: Sheep, goats, cows, horses or donkeys, chickens, etc.) ***Alternatively*** – provide animal stickers or stamps and let the children put them around.



Baby Jesus was born in a stable  
and placed in a manger.

## Of Shepherds and Angels

Teacher Pep Talk: It wasn't that long ago, if you think about it. Of course, it has been more than 2000 years... but... Bethlehem is still there... and the Judean hills, where the shepherds were "keeping watch over their flocks by night," are still pretty much the same. The low lying hills are covered with large boulders and tufts of dry grass. There are few, if any, trees, which means that at night even a sleepy group of shepherds would be able to see every star in the sky (let alone a "heavenly host" praising God!) Imagine the marvel of it all! The shepherds visited by angels who announced His birth to the whole world! "For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord." It's like it just happened yesterday!

You will need: A birth announcement to show during the lesson.  
Costumes (Optional) for skit. See skit for costume ideas.  
Crayons, glitter glue, or other decorations for craft options.

Major Points: The Savior, Jesus, was born in Bethlehem.  
Angels told the Good News to the shepherds.  
The shepherds came to worship Jesus.

Scripture Ref. Luke 2:8-20 (The angels appear to the shepherds.)

Memory Verse: Luke 2:14 "Glory to God in the highest..."

Lesson: **Christmas is almost here!**

- We have Christmas every year to celebrate that Jesus, the Savior, was born!
- Let's talk about the very first Christmas!

### **The first Christmas...**

- Mary and Joseph had traveled to Bethlehem.
- There was no room for them in the inn, but they finally found a place to stay in the stable.
- Baby Jesus was born while they were there.
- Mary wrapped the baby in cloths and laid Him in a manger

### **Birth Announcement**

- When a new baby is born, parents often send out a birth announcement. (*Show birth announcement.*)
- It tells when the baby was born, and all about the baby.
- God is Jesus' father. He wanted the whole world to know that His One and Only Son had been born in Bethlehem!
- God sent out a wonderful birth announcement of His own!
- But God didn't send paper announcements. God sent angels!

### **Angels visit the Shepherds**

- Shepherds are people who take care of flocks of sheep.
- That night there were shepherds watching over their sheep.
- God sent an angel to talk to the shepherds.
- This is what the angel told the shepherds: "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 Savior 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."
- Then all of a sudden the sky was full of angels singing praises to God. They sang "Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men."

### **The Shepherds came to worship Jesus.**

- The shepherds wanted to see the Savior!
- They came to Bethlehem (the town of David).
- They found the baby wrapped in cloths and lying in a manger... Just as they had been told by the angel!
- They worshiped the baby, Jesus, and praised God!
- We can praise God too! Let's say the words the angels said; "Glory to God in the highest!" (*Have children repeat.*)

Prayer: Let's pray and thank God for sending the baby Jesus!

Dear God,  
Thank you for sending the baby Jesus.  
Thank you that He is your Son and our Savior.  
Thank you for Christmas.  
We love you. Amen.

Suggested Activities: (Pick and choose the activities that work best for you!)

### **Act out Narrated Christmas Skit**

Children this young really need to act out the parts of the Christmas story to be able to understand all that happened. Use this narrated script for Preschool to Kindergarten age children to help them act out the parts of the shepherds, angels, Mary and Joseph.

### **Ideas for Costumes:**

Children this young are happy with very simple costumes. For example: Large pieces of cloth (about 4x4 feet square) make excellent capes and/or head coverings. If you cut a hole in the center (for the children's heads to go through) they also make great robes. Use narrow bands of fabric for a sashes or belts. Circles of tinsel make wonderful halos for angels. Make a manger out of a laundry basket and some towels or blankets.

*NOTE: After I assembled my first box of costumes, I stored it for future Christmas skits. It has come in handy many times! Over the years I added to the collection. Now, I can outfit quite a few shepherds and a whole "host" of angels! Hang on to your costumes!*



## SHEPHERDS AND ANGELS – SKIT

### NARRATOR:

Mary and Joseph traveled to Bethlehem. When they got there, there were so many people visiting that there was no room for them in the inn.

The innkeeper saw their great need and told them that they could stay in the stable.

While they were there, Mary had her baby, Jesus. She wrapped Him in cloths and laid Him in the manger.

Nearby there were shepherds out in the fields, keeping watch over their flocks at night.

Suddenly an angel of the Lord appeared to them! And they were so afraid!

But the angel told them "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 Savior 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."

Then the angel was joined by a heavenly host saying "Glory to God in the highest and on earth peace, good will to men."

After the angels had gone away, the shepherds said to themselves. Let us go into the town and see this thing that the Lord has told us about.

And so they went and found the baby Jesus. He was wrapped in cloths and lying in a manger, just like the angel had told them!

When the shepherds found the baby Jesus, they worshiped Him.

The shepherds praised God because they were so glad that the Savior had been born!

We are glad too! And we can praise God just like the angels and the shepherds did!

### EVERYONE:


Glory to God in the highest!

THE END

**Heavenly Birth Announcement**

God announced the birth of His One and Only Son in a wonderful way: He sent angels to talk to the shepherds! Decorate this Heavenly Birth Announcement for Baby Jesus or design your own. Cut it out and mount it on construction paper.

*Born this day in the City of David, a Savior which is Christ the Lord.*




*“Glory to God in the Highest  
And on Earth  
PEACE  
Good will to Men!”*

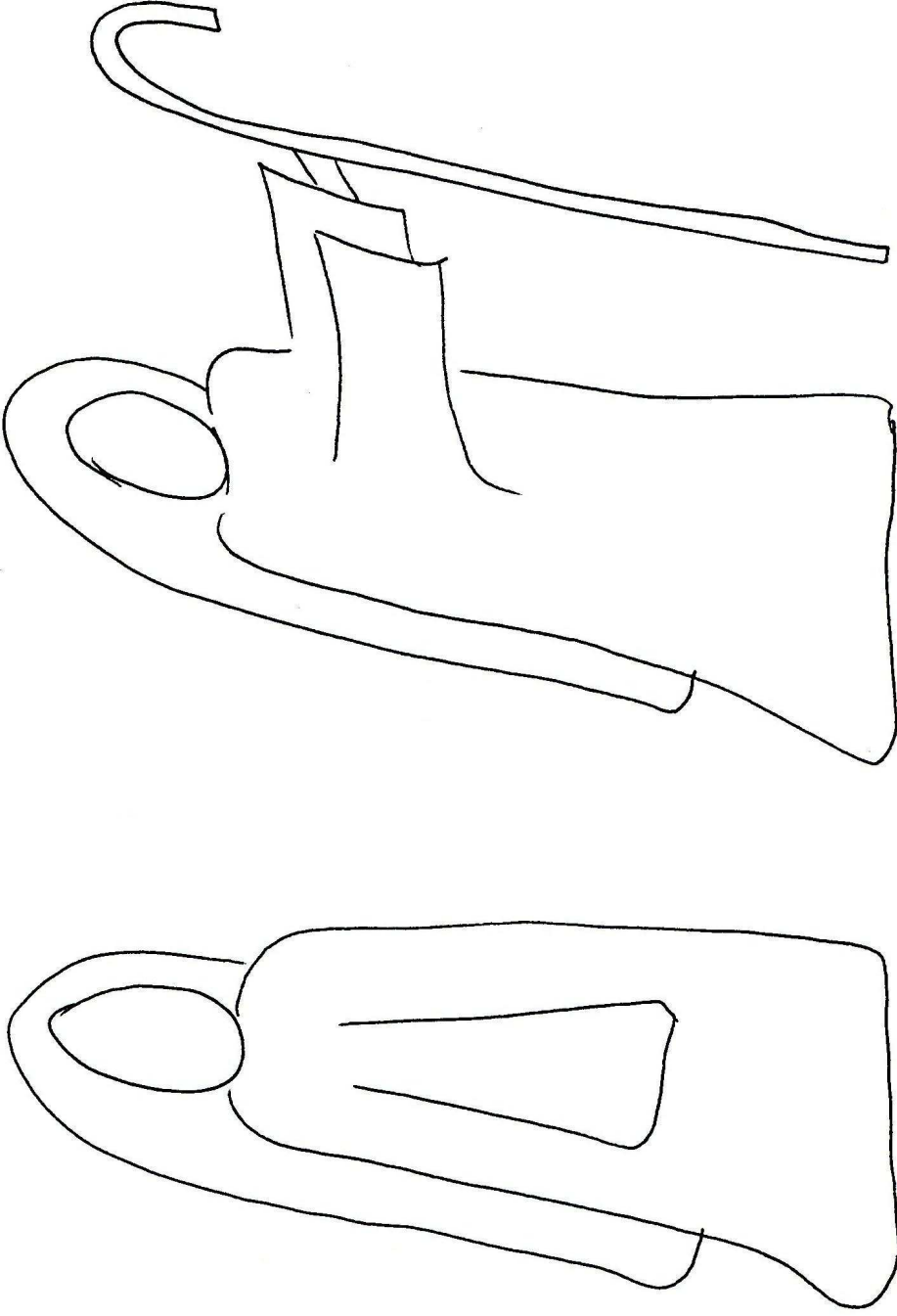
*Name: Jesus, Son of God, Savior, Christ the Lord*

*When: First Christmas*

*Where: Bethlehem... the stable... the manger*



# Shepherds came to worship the baby Jesus.



*Help the shepherds find baby Jesus. Draw in their faces, hands and feet, and color their robes.*

## Wise Men from Afar

Teacher Pep Talk: Say you are a wise man. You study the stars. In addition you have a working knowledge of mathematics and have read the ancient Hebrew scriptures. You know that one day a promised Savior will be born to the Jews. One night you notice a new star in the sky, and suddenly you realize: He has come!

How exciting! As a teacher, you get to help the children realize the wonder of the coming of the Messiah! The wise men must have felt both wonder and excitement. They realized that the promised King of the Jews had been born, and they sought Him out. They traveled a long way, they took Him gifts, and they worshiped Him!

You will need: Coloring page for each child. Glue, gold glitter, and newspaper. Costumes for skit (Optional) See skit for costume ideas.

Major Points: The wise men saw a star in the sky.  
They knew the star meant that the Savior had been born.  
They went searching for the Savior.  
When they found Him they gave Him gifts and worshiped Him.  
Jesus is God's gift to us!

Scripture Ref. Matthew 2:1-12

Memory Verse: Matthew 2:2 We... have come to worship Him.

Lesson: **Christmas is fun!**

- Christmas is fun! And Christmas is exciting! What is the most fun (exciting) part about Christmas? (*Wait for answers.*)
- That's right! One of the most fun parts about Christmas is getting presents!! I love getting presents!! Don't you?!
- Can you tell me why we give each other presents at Christmas? (*Wait for answers. There will be quite a few.*)
- Yes, we give each other presents because we love each other and because we want to make the people we love happy. But there is another reason too!
- We give presents at Christmas because we remember that the wise men gave presents to baby Jesus when they found Him.

**The wise men saw a star in the sky.**

- Back when Jesus was born, there were some wise men who lived in surrounding countries and who studied the stars.
- One day the wise men noticed a brand new star in the heavens.
- They knew it meant that the Savior had been born!
- The wise men were very excited! They knew that the King of the Jews had been born, just like God had promised!

**The wise men went searching for the Savior.**

- The wise men traveled all the way from their countries to come and see baby Jesus.
- Since they were looking for a king, they naturally went to the capital city (Jerusalem) to see if He was there.
- They asked at the gate of the capital city “Where is He who is born King of the Jews?”
- They were told that He was to be born in Bethlehem.
- Happily, Bethlehem wasn’t very far away!

**The wise men found Jesus!**

- The wise men followed the star to Bethlehem and found Jesus!
- When they found Him they bowed down and worshiped Him.
- Then they gave Him gifts (gold, frankincense, and myrrh.)
- Jesus was the promised Savior and the King of the Jews.

**We give gifts.**

- So, now we give gifts at Christmas because we remember the gifts that the wise men gave to baby Jesus.
- We also remember that the best gift of all is Jesus!
- Jesus is God’s gift to us!

Prayer: Let’s pray and thank God for giving us this wonderful gift!

Dear God,  
Thank you for giving us this wonderful gift!  
Thank you for sending us Jesus, your One and Only Son.  
Thank you for Christmas.  
We love you. Amen.

Suggested Activities: (Pick and choose the activities that work best for you!)

**Sparkling Star Craft**

Spread out newspapers to protect from messes. Allow children to put glue on the star on the craft paper. Sprinkle with glitter. Tap off excess. Allow to dry!

**Act out Narrated Christmas Skit**

Children this young really need to act out the parts of the Christmas story to be able to understand all that happened. Use the narrated script for Preschool to Kindergarten age children to help them act out the parts of the kings, as well as Mary and Joseph.

**Ideas for Costumes:**

Children this young are happy with very simple costumes. For example: Large pieces of cloth (about 4x4 feet square) make excellent capes and/or head coverings. If you cut a hole in the center (for the children’s heads to go through) they also make great robes. Use narrow bands of fabric for a sashes or belts. Circles of tinsel make wonderful halos for angels. Make a manger out of a laundry basket covered with a blanket or towels. Have a baby doll to represent the baby Jesus. Make sure the children handle the baby doll gently and with respect, since it is representing the baby Jesus.

## WISE MEN FROM AFAR – CHRISTMAS SKIT

### NARRATOR:

When Jesus was born, some wise men, who lived far away, noticed a new star in the heavens. They were very excited!

The wise men knew that the new star meant that the Savior had been born!

They wanted to see Him. So they followed the star in order to find Him.

The wise men knew that the baby was the promised King of the Jews.

Since they were looking for a king, they went to the capital city. The wise men stood in the gates of the capital city and said “Where is He who is born King of the Jews?” “We have come to worship Him!”

They were told that the Savior was to be born in Bethlehem.

The wise men were happy! Bethlehem wasn’t very far away! Soon they would see Him!

They followed the star to Bethlehem, and found the young child, Jesus.

When they found Him they bowed down and worshiped Him.

Then they opened their treasures and gave Him gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh.

The wise men were very glad they had found Jesus! We can be glad too!

We give gifts at Christmas because we remember the gifts the wise men brought to Jesus.

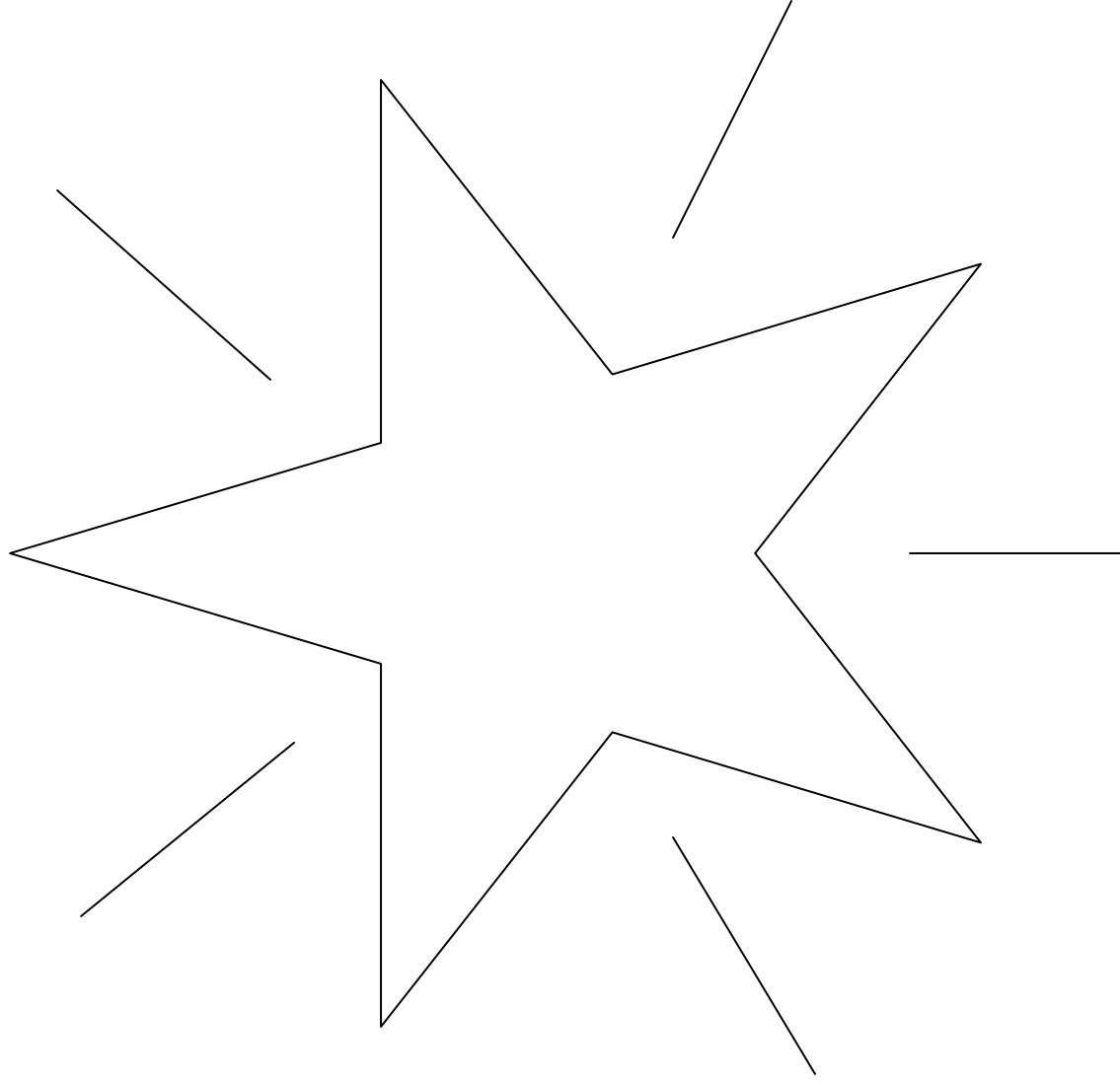
We also know that Jesus is God’s gift to us!

The wise men worshiped Jesus and we can too! Like the wise men we can all say...

### EVERYONE:

We have come to worship Him!

THE END



A Special  
Star  
Shone in the  
Sky  
That Night!

## The Flight to Egypt (God watches over Baby Jesus)

Teacher Pep Talk: In this lesson the children will recreate the Flight to Egypt... **right down to the tent!** *(This has to be one of the BEST loved preschool activities EVER!)* The children will learn that God sent an angel to warn Joseph of danger, and that Joseph did exactly what God said to do! The LORD watched over baby Jesus and kept Him safe! This is a great lesson to do just AFTER Christmas!

NOTE: It is not necessary to discuss the “Slaughter of the Innocents” with the children. However it will help if you are familiar with the story. It helps to realize just how much danger they were really in. (See “*Teachers Only*” for just a taste of this real danger.)

Teachers only: Imagine Joseph. It is dark. His heart is pounding. He has just awakened from a dreadful dream. He wakes Mary and tells her to dress quickly. They must take the baby and flee to Egypt. God has told him that there are men coming to try and kill the baby! They gather up their belongings (including the presents just given to them by the wise men.) They leave while it is still dark, perhaps even while Joseph’s heart is still pounding. They disappear into the night and into silence. Behind them they will hear distant cries. It is “Rachel weeping for her children... because they are no more.”

You will need: Materials to help make a “tent” in the room. *(For example: A couple of blankets or sheets to put over a long table.)*  
Snacks, such as bread and water, to eat in the tent.  
Other things that you might take with you on a journey. *(For example: Canteens or water bottles, blankets, backpacks, etc.)*

Major Points: God sent an angel to warn Joseph about some danger!  
God told them to escape to Egypt.  
Joseph did what God said to do.  
The LORD watched over Jesus and His family!  
He watches over you too!

Scripture Ref. Matthew 2:13-18 (Verses 13-15) When they had gone, an angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream. “Get up,” he said, “take the child and his mother and escape to Egypt. Stay there until I tell you, for Herod is going to search for the child to kill him.” So he got up, took the child and his mother during the night and left for Egypt, where he stayed until the death of Herod. And so was fulfilled what the Lord had said through the prophet: “Out of Egypt I called my son.”



Memory Verse: Psalm 121:5 The LORD watches over you...

Lesson:

**Christmas was fun!**

- Christmas was fun this year! Tell me about your Christmas. *(Wait for answers. Let each child speak.)*
- That does sound like fun!
- Today we are going to have fun! We are going to go camping right here in the room! But first I have to tell you a story about baby Jesus and His family.

**God sends an angel to warn Joseph about some danger.**

- One day, after Jesus had been born... and after the shepherds had come to worship Him... and after the wise men had come and to worship Him... and brought all their presents... the gold, the frankincense and the myrrh... *(Whew... that's a lot to say...)*
- Anyway, one day after all that happened, Joseph fell asleep.
- And that night, God sent an angel to talk to Joseph in his dream.
- The angel told Joseph that baby Jesus was in danger!
- There were bad men who wanted to hurt baby Jesus.

**God told them to escape to Egypt.**

- The angel warned Joseph to get up, take Mary and the baby and flee to Egypt. *(Egypt was another country, pretty far away.)*
- God knew that they would be safe in Egypt.

**Joseph did what God said to do.**

- Joseph woke up. He did just what the angel had told him to do.
- He woke up Mary and they got baby Jesus and fled to Egypt.
- They left at night and in a hurry.

**The Lord watched over Jesus and His family.**

- Mary and Joseph and baby Jesus were safe in Egypt.
- They stayed there for several years, until God sent the angel to Joseph again to tell him when it was safe to come back.
- The LORD watched over Jesus and His family.
- And He watches over you too!

Prayer:

Let's pray and thank God that He watches over us!

Dear God,  
Thank you for watching over us!  
Thank you for protecting baby Jesus and His family.  
Thank you for Christmas.  
We love you. Amen.

Suggested Activities: (Pick and choose the activities that work best for you!)

**Christmas Set – Coloring Pages**

Give a set of the Christmas coloring pages to each child and have them decorate the pages they have not yet done. Use a variety of crayons, markers, glue with glitter, yarn, cotton balls, etc. Punch holes along the edges of all the papers in the set and bind them together with loops of yarn to make a keepsake book from this Christmas series.

### **Re-enact the Flight to Egypt**

In this wonderful preschool activity the children pretend to re-enact the Flight to Egypt right in the classroom... even down to constructing a “tent!” You will need items to help make a “tent” in your classroom. ***(The easiest way is to throw a couple of blankets or sheets over a long table. Practice this before class begins and either leave it set up or rebuild it during the re-enactment.)*** You will also need to have items on hand that are usually carried when camping or traveling. Example: Canteens or bottles of water; bread or other dry snacks (like crackers); blankets; and maybe a backpack.

NOTE: If your classroom has many children in it, consider dividing into several smaller groups to travel together, with a Smaller Tent for each group. Have one adult with each group of 6-10 children in a “tent”. ALTERNATIVELY: Suspend a large sheet, or piece of fabric, by its corners from the ceiling in one corner of the room to create a Larger Tent and have the whole class sit under that.

Begin by just talking to the children, as if the lesson is still going on.

#### **The Flight to Egypt**

- Joseph, Mary and baby Jesus and left Bethlehem in a hurry and in the middle of the night.
- They were going on a long journey.
- If you were going on a long journey, what kinds of things would you take with you? *(Wait for answers. When the students mention items that you have with you for the re-enactment, bring them out and put them on the floor in front of you.)*
- These are some of the things like Mary and Joseph would have taken with them on their journey to Egypt. *(Show the children any other items you have as well. Discuss why they might have taken each of these things along.)*

#### **Begin the Re-enactment**

- Let’s pretend we are with Mary, Joseph, and baby Jesus and that we have to run away and hide from the Roman soldiers!
- They left in the middle of the night. *(Darken the room a little.)*
- Quick get all the things! *(Distribute all the items to carry.)*
- Ok, hurry...Let’s go! *(Lead the children on a “trip” around the room, stopping briefly now and then at various spots. Pretend to watch for Roman guards. Crouch low so that you won’t be seen easily. Speak in hurried whispers. Finally you come to the place where you will “make camp” to rest.)*

#### **Making Camp/ Tent and a Snack**

- Whew! We’ve come a long way! I’m tired and a little hungry. I don’t see any Roman guards right now. Maybe we are far enough away from Bethlehem to be safe for a little while. Let’s make camp and have some food and some rest. *(Set up the tent just like you practiced before class.)*

- Mary, Joseph and baby Jesus would have had a little tent like this one to rest in. They would have put all their things in it like this. *(Put the things in the tent. Unroll the bedding and let everyone sit inside the tent. When everyone is comfortable, break out the bread and water and have a snack in the tent!)*
- Mary and Joseph and baby Jesus would have had some food and water with them. Water is very important there, because some of the land is desert. *(As you have snacks in the tent, talk with the children about the various aspects of the lesson. Spend some time and let the children enjoy the tent.)*
  - What would it have been like for Mary, Joseph and baby Jesus as they traveled to try and escape from the Roman soldiers?
  - What kind of things did they have to take with them?
  - How did God warn Joseph about the danger to baby Jesus?
  - God watched over baby Jesus and His family!
  - God watches over all of us too!
- As you finish your snack, put your trash in this sack. People who travel have to clean up after themselves. We can't leave any trace that we were here! Someone might find it and follow us! *(Have the children help clean up the snacks.)*

### **On to Egypt... but first... a little nap!!**

- Good job, cleaning up! Oh, I'm sleepy! *(Yawn loudly!)* Time to get a little rest before we have to move on! *(Lie down and pretend to snore loudly. Sit up after a moment or so.)*
- OK... that's enough sleep! We have to go! Those Roman soldiers could still be after us!
- Better break camp. Gather up everything. We can't leave a trace! *(Gather up all the items you brought with you. Pack up the blankets, the snacks... even the trash, if it's still with you.)*
- On to Egypt! Let's go! *(Lead the children out of the tent and around the room again until you end up in "Egypt".)*

### **Arrive in Egypt.**

- Here we are in Egypt! Finally! Now we are safe! *(Sit down.)*
- Mary and Joseph and Jesus stayed in Egypt for a long time, until all the people who wanted to hurt baby Jesus were gone.
- Then God sent the angel to tell them it was safe to come back.
- They went to Nazareth, where they lived until Jesus was grown.
- God watched over baby Jesus and protected Him.
- God watches over you too!
- Well... Mary, Joseph and baby Jesus are safe now! Time to put our things away! *(Involve the children in cleaning up the room and putting it back as it is supposed to be. Dismantle the tent, put away all the items, and throw away the trash!)* **THE END**