



**Seeds of Christmas**





Seeds Family Worship is on a mission to help families experience God's Word through music, video, and great family resources. We want to help parents understand God's design for families, and make family worship a priority in their homes.

Seeds is a non-profit ministry, so the proceeds received from our resources go back into the ministry to help get God's Word into homes worldwide. We also provide multi-generational worship events for the whole family to help further our mission in the local church.

Find More Great Resources  
For Your Church And Family At:

**[SEEDSFAMILYWORSHIP.COM](http://SEEDSFAMILYWORSHIP.COM)**

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## NOTE FROM JASON HOUSER [SEEDS FOUNDER - FATHER OF 3]

Merry Christmas to your family from all of our families at Seeds Family Worship! We are excited that you are choosing to spend time around God's Word as a family during this Christmas season.

Our vision for this guide is to help your family make the most of the Christmas season. It is easy to get distracted with so many activities during the holiday and miss the incredible opportunity to worship God and remember the true miracle of Christmas: the birth of a Savior!

On your family's journey through this guide, you will learn from the prophets who wrote about Jesus' birth hundreds of years before He was born. You will hear stories of angels appearing to Mary and Joseph telling them about the supernatural way that baby Jesus was coming into the world. And then about how an angel appeared to common shepherds following His birth saying, "I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all people, a Savior has been born to you; He is Christ the Lord (Luke 2)."

We know that every family's schedule is unique, so we suggest that you use this outline as a template to help you be intentional and set aside time to prepare your hearts for Christmas. Just like many families celebrate advent (which means "the coming") to help them learn about Jesus coming, this guide is meant to help your family focus on Jesus and dig deeper into the true story and meaning of Christmas.

One last thought to share with you. Our oldest son Ben graduated

this year. It has given Heidi and me profound perspective on how quickly the full-time parenting season passes. We want to encourage you to make the most of the time you have left with your children. While they are living with you, this is your moment to teach them about Jesus.

We are praying that this guide will be an incredible blessing to you and your family as you seek Him together this Christmas season.

## **WHAT IS FAMILY WORSHIP?**

Another name for family worship is family devotions. This is the practice of intentionally setting aside time to teach, train and disciple your family.

For thousands of years family worship has been one of the most important aspects of the home. However, in recent years family worship has been neglected in many christian homes. We strongly believe God wants to restore this practice. We are committed to equipping and supporting you as you disciple your kids.

## **HOW TO MAKE FAMILY WORSHIP A WIN FOR YOUR FAMILY**

Like different kinds of music, family worship comes in many forms and looks different for every family. Some families have family worship every day, some once a week and others have yet to get started. Pick the rhythm that works best for your family.

Our Family Worship Guides are created to make family worship

around 15 minutes. The focus is not on the length of time, but on connecting with God and building relationships with each other. Don't get discouraged! Some days will be better than others, but everytime you sit down with your kids around God's Word will be a 'WIN'.

## HOW TO USE SEEDS FAMILY WORSHIP GUIDES

Our Family Worship Guides are easy to use and made so that every family can have meaningful family devotions at home.

Each family worship time is set up like this:

**1. PRAY 2. SING 3. READ 4. TALK 5. PRAY**

**AS YOU GO:** Deuteronomy 6 is a template for God's design for family discipleship. It says that we should teach our children God's commandments "when we sit at home, as we walk along the road, when we lie down and when we rise." We have included creative ideas at the end of each lesson to help you apply God's Word in your home-- as you go.

I know what you are thinking... WOW! That sounds easy! The best part is that your family will be memorizing scripture while unfolding the truth in God's Word.

Let's Get Started!



**FOR  
TO US  
A CHILD  
IS BORN,  
TO US A SON  
IS GIVEN: AND THE  
GOVERNMENT SHALL BE  
UPON HIS SHOULDER,  
AND HIS NAME SHALL BE CALLED  
WONDERFUL COUNSELOR,  
MIGHTY GOD,  
EVERLASTING FATHER,  
PRINCE OF PEACE.**

**ISAIAH**

**9:6**



# TO US A CHILD IS BORN

ISAIAH 9:6, JOHN 3:16



## START WITH PRAYER



## PRESS PLAY

Play “To Us A Child Is Born” (Isaiah 9:6, John 3:16) from the Seeds of Christmas album or DVD. Sing with your family to worship God and plant God’s Word in your hearts.

FOR TO US A CHILD IS BORN, TO US A SON IS GIVEN; AND THE  
GOVERNMENT SHALL BE UPON HIS SHOULDER, AND HIS NAME  
SHALL BE CALLED WONDERFUL COUNSELOR, MIGHTY GOD,  
EVERLASTING FATHER, PRINCE OF PEACE.

ISAIAH 9:6

## OPEN THE BIBLE

Read Isaiah 9:6 & John 3:16:

<sup>6</sup>For to us a Child is born, to us a Son is given; and the government shall be upon His shoulder, and His name shall be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.

<sup>16</sup>For God so loved the world, that He gave His only Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish but have eternal life.

## TALK ABOUT IT

When we sat down as a team to write this song, we had a vision to connect the prophecies about Jesus found in the Old Testament with greatest gift ever given to the world. This is the gospel story and why we celebrate Christmas!

For to us a child is born, to us **A SON IS GIVEN.** (Isaiah 9:6)  
For God so loved the world, **HE GAVE HIS ONLY SON.** (John 3:16)

My Mom and Dad made a very special promise to me several months before my 10th Christmas. They said they were taking our family on an airplane from Idaho to Florida to see our cousins. I had never been on an airplane and the thought of it was amazing to me. I'll never forget waking up early on Christmas morning and heading to the airport. I was so excited to get on the plane and I brought my most trusted ally, my teddy bear Ruxpin. Our trip to Florida ended up being one of the most memorable times for our



family. I was so thankful that the promise from my parents was fulfilled.

Did you know that God made us an awesome promise - in fact the greatest promise of all time? He promised to send a Savior to bring us back into right relationship with God. One place this promise is found is Isaiah 9:6. Isaiah prophesied about Jesus coming into the world hundreds of years before He was born.

In this passage, Isaiah describes the character of the child to be born. The names mentioned in this song are descriptions of the character of Jesus. They are:

**Wonderful Counselor** - Jesus is wonderful and the greatest counselor of all time.

**Mighty God** - He is the all-powerful God who is mighty to save.

**Everlasting Father** - He is the source of eternity and eternal life is found in Him.

**Prince of Peace** - He gives peace to all who trust in His finished work on the cross.

Now let's connect Isaiah 9:6 to the second part of the song from John 3:16.

John 3:16 says that God loved us so much that He sent us Jesus. He was born into this world as a baby, yet was fully God and fully man. He lived a perfect life, without sin, so He could die on the

cross to pay for our sins. If we believe in Him, we will not perish, but have eternal life. To perish means to spend eternity apart from God, and to have eternal life is to spend eternity with God.



## SEEDS TREASURE

# JESUS FULFILLS GOD'S PROMISE!



## DISCUSSION

1. Who is the Isaiah talking about when he says ‘Unto us a child is born?’
2. Which of Jesus names from Isaiah 9 is your favorite and why?
3. If we believe in Jesus we will not \_\_\_\_\_ but have \_\_\_\_\_.
4. What is eternal life?



## CLOSE WITH PRAYER



## AS YOU GO...

1. Around the table this week, have someone in the family share a favorite Christmas memory.
2. Have everyone in the family create an ornament with their favorite name of Jesus from Isaiah 9 and place it on the tree.
3. Continue to listen to this song or watch this video throughout the week.

### REMEMBER:

JESUS FULFILLS GOD'S PROMISE!

Five horizontal ribbon shapes stacked vertically, each with a folded end on the left and right. The top ribbon is black and contains the text 'JESUS FULFILLS GOD'S PROMISE!'. The other four ribbons are light gray and are blank, intended for writing.

And He shall stand  
and shepherd His flock  
in the strength of the LORD,  
in the majesty of the  
name of the LORD His God.  
And they shall dwell secure,  
for now He shall be great  
to the ends of the earth.  
And He shall be their peace.

Micah 5:4-5



# TO THE ENDS OF THE EARTH

MICAH 5:2-5



## START WITH PRAYER



## PRESS PLAY

Play “To The Ends Of The Earth” (Micah 5:2-5) from the Seeds of Christmas album or DVD. Sing along as a family to help get these verses planted deep in your hearts.

(👐 A hand motion video is available for this song.)

AND HE SHALL STAND AND SHEPHERD HIS FLOCK  
 IN THE STRENGTH OF THE LORD, IN THE MAJESTY OF THE  
 NAME OF THE LORD HIS GOD. AND THEY SHALL DWELL SECURE,  
 FOR NOW HE SHALL BE GREAT TO THE ENDS OF THE EARTH.  
 AND HE SHALL BE THEIR PEACE.

MICAH 5:4-5



## OPEN THE BIBLE

Read Micah 5:2-5:

<sup>2</sup>But you, O Bethlehem Ephrathah, who are too little to be among the clans of Judah, from you shall come forth for Me One who is to be Ruler in Israel, whose coming forth is from of old, from ancient days. <sup>3</sup>Therefore He shall give them up until the time when she who is in labor has given birth; then the rest of His brothers shall return to the people of Israel. <sup>4</sup>And He shall stand and shepherd His flock in the strength of the LORD, in the majesty of the name of the LORD His God. And they shall dwell secure, for now He shall be great to the ends of the earth. <sup>5</sup>And He shall be their peace.



## TALK ABOUT IT

To fully understand the miracle of Christmas, we have to understand prophecy and how God used it to show us that the baby born in Bethlehem would be the Savior of the world.

A prophet in the Old Testament was someone who would speak God's truth to others. In fact, these prophets would not only declare God's truth, but also reveal details about the future. One reason God uses prophecy is to simply show us that He is God and He is in control.

There are about around 330 biblical prophecies that point to our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. The verses we are looking at

here (Micah 5:2-5) have a couple of those prophecies. Micah prophesied 650-700 years before Jesus was born that He would be born in Bethlehem.

Bethlehem was an insignificant little town, but just as God prophesied through Micah, this was the town that God planned for Jesus' arrival on the earth.

What is even more interesting is that Joseph and Mary were living in Nazareth while Mary was pregnant with Jesus. You would assume that Jesus would be born in Nazareth; however, God had other plans and this prophecy would be fulfilled.

It was 68 miles between Nazareth and Bethlehem. That may not seem too far to us, but if you were pregnant and had to walk or ride a donkey- that would be quite a distance.

So what would make them leave Nazareth for Bethlehem? Well, we learn in the book of Luke that Cæsar Augustus ordered that a census be taken, and everyone went to be registered, each to his hometown. For Joseph and Mary, this meant a trip to Bethlehem. Guess what happened? While they were there, Jesus was born and the prophecy was fulfilled!



## **SEEDS TREASURE**

**GOD KNOWS THE FUTURE  
AND HE USES PROPHECY TO SHOW US.**



## DISCUSSION

1. What was the role of an Old Testament prophet?
2. What is one reason that God uses prophecy?
3. How many biblical prophecies point to Jesus?
4. Bethlehem was the most prestigious town of its time.  
[True/False]
5. Why did Mary and Joseph leave Nazareth for Bethlehem?
6. Where was Jesus born?



## CLOSE IN PRAYER



## AS YOU GO...

1. Watch this short video as a family at:  
[www.seedsfamilyworship.com/christmasvideo](http://www.seedsfamilyworship.com/christmasvideo)
2. Continue to listen to this song or watch the video throughout this week.



# REMEMBER:

JESUS FULFILLS GOD'S PROMISE!

GOD KNOWS THE FUTURE AND HE USES PROPHECY TO SHOW US.

Four empty ribbon-shaped boxes stacked vertically, intended for writing. Each box has a decorative, folded ribbon appearance on its ends.

**Therefore  
the Lord Himself  
will give you a sign.  
Behold, the virgin  
shall conceive  
and bear a Son,  
and shall call  
His name  
Immanuel.**

**Isaiah 7:14**



# CALL HIS NAME IMMANUEL

ISAIAH 7:14



## START WITH PRAYER



## PRESS PLAY

Play “Call His Name Immanuel” (Isaiah 7:14) from the Seeds of Christmas album or DVD. Sing along as a family to help get these verses planted deep in your hearts.

THEREFORE THE LORD HIMSELF WILL GIVE YOU A SIGN.  
BEHOLD, THE VIRGIN SHALL CONCEIVE AND BEAR A SON,  
AND SHALL CALL HIS NAME IMMANUEL.

ISAIAH 7:14



## OPEN THE BIBLE

Read Isaiah 7:14:

<sup>7</sup>Therefore the Lord Himself will give you a sign. Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and shall call His name Immanuel.



## TALK ABOUT IT

When the Christmas season approaches, we begin seeing signs all around. Stores are stocked with decorations, trees and lights are set up, and holiday music is played. It's a season of great anticipation. Isaiah 7:14 tell us that God was going to give His people a sign and they waited in eager anticipation. The sign leading to the first Christmas was much different than what we see today. The sign that God gave was a baby named Immanuel.

We can understand the significance of this sign because of the name God gave this child. The name Immanuel means "God with us". So, this sign from God was to be the child of God who is God. Wow!

Names have power. They define a person and can shape a person's life - for good or bad. That's why parents take great care in choosing a name for their baby. Throughout the Bible when God gave someone a name, it had meaning and marked a turning point for that person. This name, Immanuel, marked a turning point for all of humanity.

Jesus Christ is Immanuel, God with us. He is the sign of hope and salvation for all people who put their faith and trust in Him. That's why we celebrate this amazing miracle at Christmas. God came to earth in the flesh because of His great love for us. Jesus died on the cross for us - in our place! He paid the price for our sins so we wouldn't have to.

The anticipation of the Christmas season is special, but nothing compares to the anticipation of eternal life. Immanuel, God with us, came to be with us so that we could be with Him for eternity. Praise God!

Have you put your trust in Immanuel? He's the best gift you will ever receive!



## **SEEDS TREASURE**

JESUS IS THE SIGN OF HOPE AND SALVATION  
FOR ALL WHO TRUST IN HIM.



## **DISCUSSION**

1. What was the sign leading to the first Christmas?
2. What does Immanuel mean?
3. Who is Immanuel?

4. Immanuel, God with us, came to be with us so that we could be with \_\_\_\_\_ for \_\_\_\_\_.



## **CLOSE IN PRAYER**



## **AS YOU GO...**

1. Has everyone in your family received the best gift ever?  
Talk as a family about the gift of salvation.
2. Continue to listen to this song or watch the video throughout this week.

# REMEMBER:

JESUS FULFILLS GOD'S PROMISE!

GOD KNOWS THE FUTURE AND HE USES PROPHECY TO SHOW US.

JESUS IS THE SIGN OF HOPE AND SALVATION FOR ALL WHO TRUST IN HIM.

Three empty ribbon-shaped boxes, identical in shape to the ones above, arranged vertically. They are intended for the user to write their own thoughts or reflections.

And Mary said,  
My soul magnifies the Lord,  
and my spirit rejoices  
in God my Savior,  
for He has looked  
on the humble estate  
of His servant.

Luke 1:46-48





# MARY'S SONG OF PRAISE

LUKE 1:46-50



## START WITH PRAYER



## PRESS PLAY

Play “Mary’s Song of Praise” (Luke 1:46-50) from the Seeds of Christmas album or DVD. Sing along as a family to help get these verses planted deep in your hearts.

AND MARY SAID, “MY SOUL MAGNIFIES THE LORD,  
AND MY SPIRIT REJOICES IN GOD MY SAVIOR, FOR HE HAS  
LOOKED ON THE HUMBLE ESTATE OF HIS SERVANT. FOR BEHOLD,  
FROM NOW ON ALL GENERATIONS WILL CALL ME BLESSED;  
FOR HE WHO IS MIGHTY HAS DONE GREAT THINGS FOR ME,  
AND HOLY IS HIS NAME. AND HIS MERCY IS FOR THOSE WHO  
FEAR HIM FROM GENERATION TO GENERATION.

LUKE 1:46-50



## OPEN THE BIBLE

Read Luke 1:46-50:

<sup>46</sup> And Mary said, “My soul magnifies the Lord, <sup>47</sup> and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior, <sup>48</sup> for He has looked on the humble estate of His servant. For behold, from now on all generations will call me blessed; <sup>49</sup> for He who is mighty has done great things for me, and holy is His name. <sup>50</sup> And His mercy is for those who fear Him from generation to generation.



## TALK ABOUT IT

A young girl named Mary is an amazing part of the Christmas story. In Luke 1:28 she is visited by the angel Gabriel. He tells Mary that she is favored (given a special honor) and that the Lord is with her. He then says that she will conceive and bear a son. She is to call His name Jesus. He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High.

God took an ordinary girl and used her for His extraordinary purposes. The Creator of the Universe was intimately acquainted with Mary and her character (Psalm 139:13). He knew that her heart was willing to obey and that she desired to follow His plan. He knew that she would delight in trusting the will of God even if she did not fully understand how it would happen.

Mary bravely asks the angel, “How can this be, since I am a virgin?” The angel answered her and said ‘the Holy Spirit will come upon

you, and the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born will be holy- the Son of God!’

That was a lot of information for sweet Mary to handle and remember she was just a young girl. Not only that, she was talking to an angel!! Can you imagine what it would be like for an angel to appear right before your eyes? AMAZING!

After being visited by the angel, Mary went to visit her relative Elizabeth, in the town of Judah. This is where Mary sang a song of praise to God.

Mary, full of grace, responds in obedience to the Lord saying, “I am the Lord’s servant; let it be done to me according to your word.”

Brave Mary, humbly postured herself in the middle of an overwhelming revelation and worshiped. Mary’s Song of Praise was her heartfelt expression of love and devotion to God as she prepared to carry the Savior of the world.



## SEEDS TREASURE

MARY WAS DELIGHTED TO OBEY GOD  
AND FOLLOW HIS PLAN.



## DISCUSSION

1. What was the name of the angel that appeared to Mary?

2. What does it mean that God favored Mary?
3. How does Psalm 139:13-16 relate to this story?
4. After the angel visited Mary, who did she go visit?
5. How did Mary respond to this incredible message?
6. When we are asked to obey, how do we typically respond?



## PRAY



## AS YOU GO...

1. Mary says in Luke 1:49 that the Lord has done great things for her. Make a list of great things that the Lord has done for your family.
2. Write a poem or song of praise from your family to God and share it with us by sending it to [seeds@seedsfamilyworship.com](mailto:seeds@seedsfamilyworship.com)
3. Ask God to give you the desire to do His will and then listen to this song and worship the Lord like Mary.

# REMEMBER:

JESUS FULFILLS GOD'S PROMISE!

GOD KNOWS THE FUTURE AND HE USES PROPHECY TO SHOW US.

JESUS IS THE SIGN OF HOPE AND SALVATION FOR ALL WHO TRUST IN HIM.

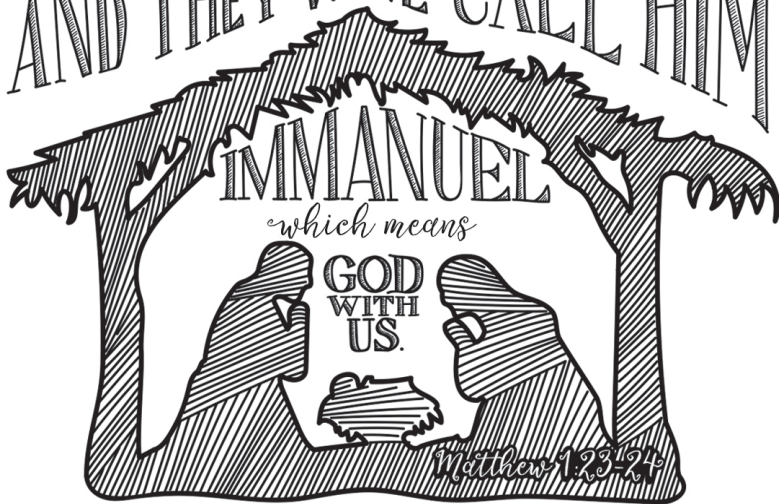
MARY WAS DELIGHTED TO OBEY GOD AND FOLLOW HIS PLAN.





*All this took place  
to fulfill what the Lord had  
said through the prophet:*

THE VIRGIN WILL CONCEIVE  
AND GIVE BIRTH TO A SON,  
AND THEY WILL CALL HIM





# GOD WITH US

**MATTHEW 1:18-24**



## **START WITH PRAYER**



## **PRESS PLAY**

Play “God With Us” from the Seeds Of Christmas DVD or watch it with your family for free on your computer or television by using this link: <https://www.seedsfamilyworship.com/ftg-God-with-us/>

(👐 A hand motion video is available for this song.)

Watch this video and share in the wonder of this young girl with your family as you imagine what it must have been like for Mary and Joseph. God used them as His chosen people to bring the Savior into the world as an innocent child.

Do you have a nativity scene in your home? If so, bring it to the place where you are doing family worship or go where it is placed to share this family time.

... ALL THIS TOOK PLACE TO FULFILL  
WHAT THE LORD HAD SAID THROUGH THE PROPHET:  
“THE VIRGIN WILL CONCEIVE AND GIVE BIRTH TO A SON,  
AND THEY WILL CALL HIM IMMANUEL”  
(WHICH MEANS “GOD WITH US”).

MATTHEW 1:23-24

## OPEN THE BIBLE

Read Matthew 1:18-24:

<sup>18</sup>This is how the birth of Jesus the Messiah came about: His mother Mary was pledged to be married to Joseph, but before they came together, she was found to be pregnant through the Holy Spirit. <sup>19</sup>Because Joseph her husband was faithful to the law, and yet did not want to expose her to public disgrace, he had in mind to divorce her quietly. <sup>20</sup>But after he had considered this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, “Joseph son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary home as your wife, because what is conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. <sup>21</sup>She will give birth to a Son, and you are to give Him the name Jesus, because He will save His people from their sins.” <sup>22</sup>All this took place to fulfill what the Lord had said through the prophet: <sup>23</sup>“The virgin will conceive and give birth to a Son, and they will call Him Immanuel” (which means “God with us”). <sup>24</sup>When Joseph woke up, he did what the angel of the Lord had commanded him.





## TALK ABOUT IT

We learned in our last lesson about Mary's beautiful response to the angel's news that she was going to give birth through a supernatural miracle. God used both Mary and Joseph as His chosen people to bring the Savior into the world. Can you imagine what it must have been like for them?

Joseph and Mary were planning to spend the rest of their lives together and they were legally pledged to be married. (This is like a modern day engagement, but much more binding. A divorce would be necessary to break it off.)

Joseph had found out that Mary was pregnant. He knew he was not the father because they had remained pure in their relationship. We can only imagine that Joseph was confused and hurt when he heard this news about her pregnancy. Joseph was a just and faithful man and did not want to put her to shame, so he had planned to divorce her quietly. This tells us so much about the strong character of Joseph.

As he considered this, another miracle happened. An angel appeared to him and said, do not be afraid to take Mary home as your wife, because the baby in her has been conceived by the Holy Spirit.

Then the angel told Joseph to give this child the name Jesus, which means "Yahweh Saves"...because He would save His people from their sins."

Jesus was the Messiah promised by the prophets in the Old Testament. He came to save us from our sins and restore our relationship with God. He is not only our Savior, but he is “Immanuel”...God with us.



## **SEEDS TREASURE**

JESUS IS IMMANUEL...GOD WITH US.



## **DISCUSSION**

1. Have someone share the emotions they felt when watching the little girl in the video as she interacted with the nativity scene.
2. What does the name Jesus mean?
3. What does the name Immanuel mean?
4. What do you think it means that Jesus is “God with us”?



## **CLOSE IN PRAYER**



## **AS YOU GO...**

1. Take time this week to discuss the nativity scene.

2. This passage in the Bible contains 191 words. Did you think that you could memorize verses with almost 200 words? Let's work on it this week.

3. Encourage each other to sing this song enough to be able to recite this verse word-for-word. Now you have this picture of the Christmas scene stored up in your heart!

## REMEMBER:

JESUS FULFILLS GOD'S PROMISE!

GOD KNOWS THE FUTURE AND HE USES PROPHECY TO SHOW US.

JESUS IS THE SIGN OF HOPE AND SALVATION FOR ALL WHO TRUST IN HIM.

MARY WAS DELIGHTED TO OBEY GOD AND FOLLOW HIS PLAN.

JESUS IS IMMANUEL...GOD WITH US.



*Today in the town of David*

**A SAVIOR**

*has been born to you;*

*He is the Messiah,*

**THE LORD.**

*This will be a sign to you:*

*You will find a baby*

**WRAPPED IN CLOTHS**

*and lying in a manger.*

**Luke 2:11-12**



# JOY

LUKE 2:8-14



## START WITH PRAYER



## PRESS PLAY

Play “Joy” (Luke 2:8-14) from the Seeds of Christmas album or DVD. Sing along as a family to help get these verses planted deep in your hearts.

(👐 A hand motion video is available for this song.)

TODAY IN THE TOWN OF DAVID A SAVIOR  
HAS BEEN BORN TO YOU; HE IS THE MESSIAH, THE LORD.  
THIS WILL BE A SIGN TO YOU: YOU WILL FIND A BABY  
WRAPPED IN CLOTHS AND LYING IN A MANGER.

LUKE 2:11-12



## OPEN THE BIBLE

Read Luke 2:8-14:

<sup>8</sup> And there were shepherds living out in the fields nearby, keeping watch over their flocks at night. <sup>9</sup> An angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. <sup>10</sup> But the angel said to them, “Do not be afraid. I bring you good news that will cause great joy for all the people. <sup>11</sup> Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; He is the Messiah, the Lord. <sup>12</sup> This will be a sign to you: You will find a baby wrapped in cloths and lying in a manger.” <sup>13</sup> Suddenly a great company of the heavenly host appeared with the angel, praising God and saying, <sup>14</sup> “Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace to those on whom His favor rests.”



## TALK ABOUT IT

The three greatest days since creation have to be the day that Jesus born, His death on the cross and His powerful resurrection from the grave! Today we are going to talk about the day Jesus was born.

I love Christmas because I love celebrating Jesus! It is amazing that Jesus came to earth the same way we did. He did not ride down on clouds and He did not float down from heaven—He was born as a baby.

This was such an amazing night; Jesus had the attention of all of heaven. Can you imagine how excited the angels were the night

Jesus came to earth on the greatest mission of all time?

Think about what it was like to be a shepherd in Jesus' day. They would spend most nights outside watching over their flocks. I imagine that most days were uneventful. Lots of sitting with a couple of intense moments from time-to-time when they needed to protect their flock from an unwanted intruder.

This was no ordinary night for the shepherds! The Bible tells us that 'an angel of the Lord appeared to them and the glory of the Lord shone around them...' The angel came to tell them that the Savior of the world had been born.

Why did God choose shepherds be the recipients of the greatest news ever? I mean, shepherds? Really? Why didn't He choose important religious people or rich educated people? Why tell the shepherds? We know that in those days shepherds were social outcasts, among the lowest members of society and were not people of influence.

I think there is a few reasons God picked the shepherds. Here are a couple of those reasons:

1. Jesus came to save the lost! If the good news is for the shepherds, it must be for everyone! We see the news of Jesus being shared with the social outcasts, not the religious elite. This reminds me of Mark 2:16-17 where it says, "When the teachers of the law who were Pharisees saw him eating with the sinners and tax collectors, they asked his disciples: "Why does he eat with tax collectors and sinners?" On hearing this, Jesus said to them, "It is not the healthy who need a doctor, but the sick. I have not come to call the

righteous, but sinners.”

2. Humility. The religious leaders of the day seemed to love religion more than they loved God. In reading the Bible, I am led to believe they would have received the news with pride and not humility. On the other hand the shepherds must have felt humbled that God chose to share the good news with them. James 4:6 tells us that “God opposes the proud but gives grace to the humble.”

When you think of Christmas, remember how God used the lowly shepherds to hear and share the greatest news—that a Savior had been born. Sharing the good news started with the shepherds and then was carried on by John the Baptist, Jesus, the disciples and then by believers in every generation. We now have the honor and privilege to love God, stay humble and share His Word.



## SEEDS TREASURE

LOVE GOD, STAY HUMBLE, SHARE HIS WORD.



## DISCUSSION

1. What are the three greatest days since creation?
2. Who should we be celebrating at Christmas?



3. Why was Jesus birth shared with the shepherds?
4. “God opposes the \_\_\_\_\_ but gives grace to the \_\_\_\_\_.”



## CLOSE IN PRAYER



## AS YOU GO...

1. Pray as a family about who you can share the good news with this Christmas season.
2. Make one night this week ‘shepherds night’. Make a ‘shepherds dinner’ and eat dinner ‘shepherd style’ (on the floor). Dress up like shepherds and have fun. Have everyone share how God has been generous to them.
3. Encourage each other to sing this song enough this week to be able to recite the verse word-for-word.

## REMEMBER:

JESUS FULFILLS GOD'S PROMISE!

GOD KNOWS THE FUTURE AND HE USES PROPHECY TO SHOW US.

JESUS IS THE SIGN OF HOPE AND SALVATION FOR ALL WHO TRUST IN HIM.

MARY WAS DELIGHTED TO OBEY GOD AND FOLLOW HIS PLAN.

JESUS IS IMMANUEL...GOD WITH US.

LOVE GOD, STAY HUMBLE, SHARE HIS WORD.



