

## HomeWord<sup>1</sup> For Parents

**M**ary was a young, simple Jewish woman who recognized herself as a maidservant of the Lord and willingly accepted God's plan for her (Luke 1:38). What was that plan? She would be the mother of Jesus!

And so it was. In the little town of Bethlehem, Mary brought forth her firstborn Son, wrapped Him in swaddling clothes, and laid Him—not with kings and royalty—but in a manger used to feed animals, because there were no other rooms for them to stay in (Luke 2:7). His birth was announced to simple shepherds staying out in the nearby fields (Luke 2:8). And the announcement was spectacular. First, an angel of God appeared to the shepherds with the glory of the Lord shining all around. The angel announced that a Savior, who is Christ the Lord, was born. The shepherds then witnessed a multitude of the heavenly host praising God and saying, "Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, goodwill toward men!" (Luke 2:9–14). Immediately, the shepherds made their way to Bethlehem and found Mary,

Joseph, and the babe lying in a manger just as the angel had said (Luke 2:15–16).

This was a humble, earthly beginning for the great Redeemer King—the incarnate God Himself—unlikely for the Creator of the universe! Yet Scripture assures us in many places that this humble babe was in fact God. The Apostle John, by the inspiration of the Holy Spirit, revealed Jesus Christ as God. And John tells us in his Gospel that "the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we beheld His glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father" (John 1:14). The Word was God and the Word became flesh. The Word was Jesus Christ, the promised Messiah and Savior.

Jesus was fully God and fully man. Though He was God, He willingly gave up the heavenly honor, glory, and rights that were His. He took the form of a bondservant and came to earth as a man. He lived in humility and finally humbled Himself and became obedient to the point of death on the Cross (Philippians 2:6–8).

*Go to the Online Resource Page for more information.*

## OutWord<sup>1</sup> For Family Discussion

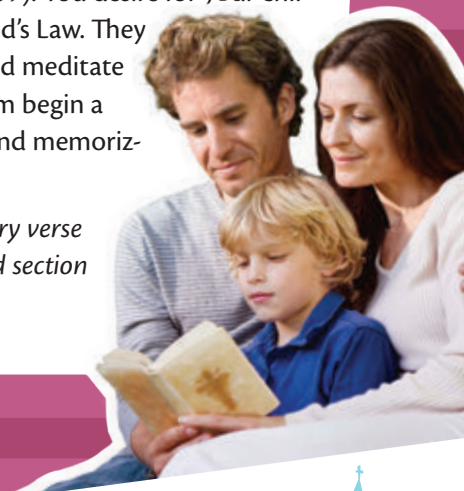
Suppose your friend tells you that he does believe the Bible, but he also believes what he reads in all the Christian books. After all, they are Christians, too. And they must read the Bible. **What would you say?**

*We need to be very careful who we listen to and where we go for the truth. There are a lot of people who write books and teach about God, but that doesn't mean that everything they say is right! We need to be sure we read the Bible for ourselves and know that what we believe comes from the Bible. Only God and His Word are perfect; men make mistakes all the time. We should trust our pastors and teachers, for sure, but God has the final say. If something we see or hear doesn't seem right, we are responsible to find out what God says in His Word and believe that.*

## inWord<sup>1</sup> For Family Study

"Oh, how I love Your law! It is my meditation all the day" (Psalm 119:97). You desire for your children to truly love God's Law. They must know it well and meditate on it often. Help them begin a lifetime of learning and memorizing God's Word!

*Begin with the memory verse in the Learn the Word section inside this handout.*



# Birth of Christ

## KEY THEME

- Jesus is God in the flesh.

## KEY PASSAGES

- Luke 2:6–16
- John 10:30

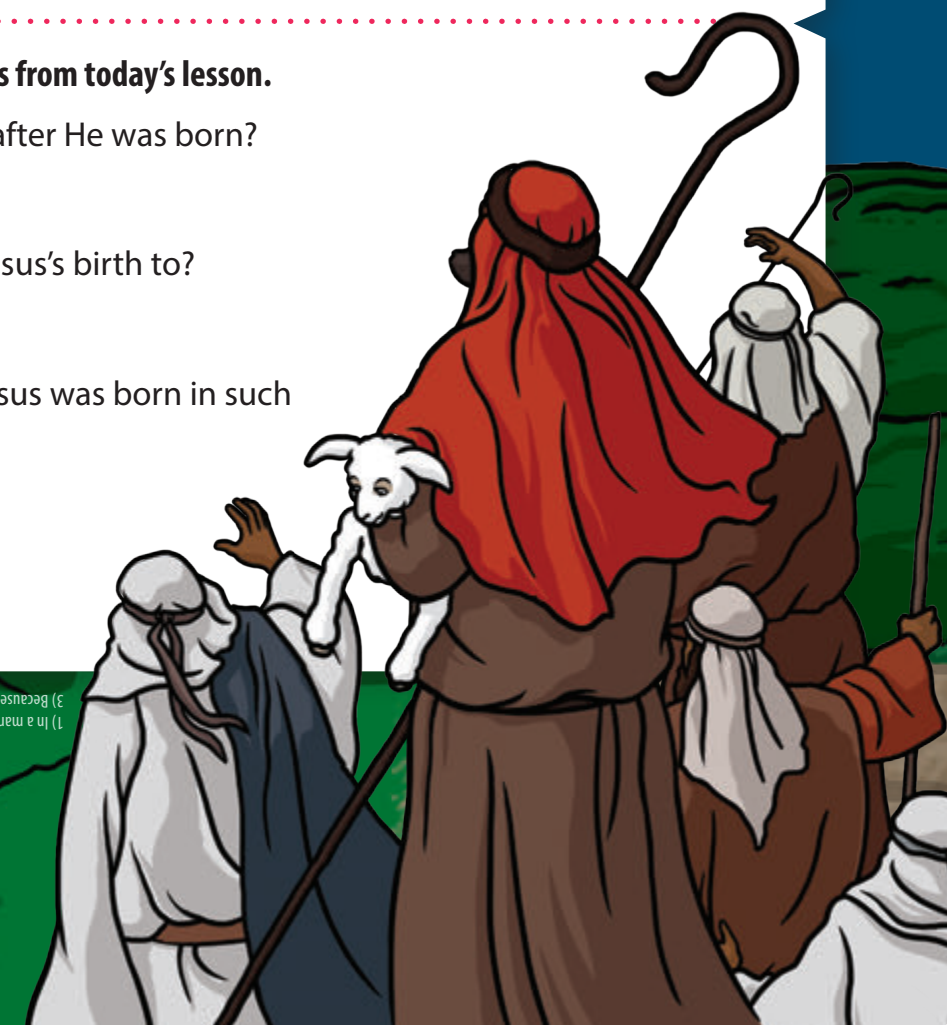


## What You HEARD<sup>1</sup> in the Word

- Jesus was born in Bethlehem and laid in a manger. Angels announced His birth to shepherds out in the fields tending their sheep.
- Jesus's humble birth is surprising because Jesus is God!

Ask your child these questions from today's lesson.

- 1 Where did Mary lay Jesus after He was born?
- 2 Who did God announce Jesus's birth to?
- 3 Why is it surprising that Jesus was born in such a simple way?



1) In a manger. 2) Shepherds in nearby fields. 3) Because He is God.



### Read the Word with Mom & Dad

**Monday** (John 1:3)

What was made through Jesus Christ?

**Tuesday** (Matthew 1:21)

Why did Jesus come to earth?

**Wednesday** (John 1:2)

Where was Jesus in the beginning?

**Thursday** (Matthew 1:23)

Who was called Immanuel? What does the name Immanuel mean?

**Friday** (John 10:30)

What did Jesus say about Himself?

**Saturday** (Philippians 2:8)

How did Jesus come? What was His appearance? (Your Memory Verse)

### Learn the Word!

*And being found in appearance as a man, He humbled Himself and became obedient to the point of death, even the death of the cross.*  
**Philippians 2:8**

## How did they get there?

Mary and Joseph traveled from Nazareth to Bethlehem for the census. Help them find the way through the maze. Then color the pictures.



### SNEAK PEEK

Jesus was born! Some people loved Him while others hated Him! Come next week to find out what happened next.

### LIVE the Word with Johnny and His Dad

Johnny, Jesus IS God! And Jesus IS God's Son!	That's confusing, Dad. It doesn't make sense.
But the Bible tells us Jesus is God's only begotten Son. And it tells us Jesus is God!	And since we can trust the Bible, we know that is the truth, right?>

