



8

Birth of Christ

Key Theme

- Jesus is God in the flesh.

Key Passages

- Luke 2:6–16; John 10:30

Objectives

Students will be able to:

- Describe how Jesus was born.
- Explain why Jesus's humble birth was surprising.



Lesson Overview



Come On In

Students will review the memory verse by putting the Memory Verse Cards in order and reciting the verse to the class and/or a friend.



Activity 1: Birth of Christ Class Notes Booklet

Students will fill out the Birth of Christ Class Notes Booklet as you study the lesson.



Studying God's Word

Jesus, the King of kings, was born humbly and laid in a manger. His birth was first announced, not to kings and royalty, but to shepherds tending their flocks in the fields. Who would have thought that the Creator God would enter the world this way? But that is how Jesus, the God-Man, chose to come. The Creator God came quietly and humbly to save His people from their sins.



Activity 2: What the Bible Says

Students will read and sort cards to determine whether the card depicts something that IS in the Bible or something that IS NOT in the Bible according to the account of Jesus's birth in Luke 2:1–20.

Lesson Preparation

WHAT YOU WILL DO

WHAT YOU WILL NEED



COME ON IN

- Print and cut out one set of 10 Memory Verse Cards from the Resource DVD-ROM for each student. Print on cardstock.
- Put cards in an envelope or small plastic bag. Keep cards for Lessons 7–12.

- Memory Verse Poster
- Memory Verse Cards in envelope or small plastic bag for each student



BIRTH OF CHRIST CLASS NOTES BOOKLET

- Print, cut, collate, and staple one Birth of Christ Class Notes Booklet from the Resource DVD-ROM for each student. Keep the answer key for your use.

- Birth of Christ Class Notes Booklet for each student, collated and stapled
- Birth of Christ Class Notes Booklet Answer Key
- Pencils



STUDYING GOD'S WORD

- Study the Prepare to Share section.
- Go Before the Throne.

- Student Take Home Sheets



WHAT THE BIBLE SAYS

- Print and cut out the What the Bible Says Cards and "Yes" and "No" signs from the Resource DVD-ROM. Keep the answer key for your use.
- Attach "Yes" and "No" signs to the board.
- Bring in a paper bag to use as a grab bag.

- What The Bible Says Cards
- What The Bible Says Answer Key
- "Yes" and "No" signs
- Poster Putty or tape
- Grab bag



MEMORY VERSE REVIEW GAME (OPTIONAL)

- This is an optional activity to use in some or all of the lessons to review the memory verse if time allows.
- Use one set of 10 Memory Verse Cards from the Come On In Activity above.
- Tape one card to the backs of 10 students.

- Memory Verse Poster
- One set of Memory Verse Cards
- Tape



Memory Verse

Philippians 2:8 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.



Prepare to Share

SCRIPTURAL BACKGROUND

Prepare to teach by preparing your heart. Read the key passages listed above along with this background.

God's angels were sent to herald the coming of the promised Messiah—first, to the priest Zacharias about his son, John the Baptist, who would prepare the people for the coming of the Lord (Luke 1:13–15), and then to the virgin Mary, who would miraculously conceive a Son. This Son—Jesus, Immanuel, God with us—was the one who would save His people from their sins (Matthew 1:21–23).

Mary was a young Jewish woman who recognized herself as a maidservant of the Lord and willingly accepted God's plan for her (Luke 1:38). By the world's standards, her credentials should not merit this call from God to be the mother of Jesus. Like all people, she was also in need of a Savior (Luke 1:47), and Jesus, though He honored her, did not elevate her (e.g., Matthew 12:46–50; Luke 11:27–28).

And yet this is how it started. 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). This simple birth was not announced to the affluent society of Judea, nor to the Jewish scribes and Pharisees, but instead to simple shepherds living out in the nearby fields (Luke 2:8). The announcement was spectacular. First, an angel of God appeared to the shepherds with the glory of the Lord shining all around. The angel brought good tidings of great joy—that a Savior, who was Christ the Lord, was born. Suddenly, the shepherds 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). With haste, the shepherds made their way to Bethlehem and found Mary and 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. Some say He couldn't be God—that God wouldn't enter the world that way. Yet Scripture instructs us in many places that this Jesus, the humble Babe, was in fact God. As John begins his Gospel, we read that "In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He [the Word] was in the beginning with God" (John 1:1–2). God, through the Apostle John, revealed Jesus Christ as God. A little later in his

Gospel, John stated 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.

Again in the Gospel of John, Jesus's disciple Thomas, upon seeing the resurrected Jesus, confirmed Jesus's deity when he proclaimed, "My Lord and my God!" (John 20:28).

Jesus Himself proclaimed that He was God when He told the Jews that He and His Father are one (John 10:30). And when the Jews picked up stones to stone Him, they revealed that they had no doubt that Jesus, being a man, had claimed to be God (John 10:33).

Jesus is fully God and fully human. Jesus knew He was God, yet 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).

Jesus came as a humble servant, and we should follow His example (Matthew 10:24–25). We are called to do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit, but humbly consider others better than ourselves (Philippians 2:3–5). Believers in Jesus Christ are called to be followers of Jesus Christ (Matthew 16:24; John 10:27). We are called to be conformed to His image (Romans 8:29). And we can be confident that if we are in Christ, He who began a good work in us will complete it according to His will and for His glory (Philippians 1:6).

HISTORICAL/APOLOGETICS BACKGROUND

Stop and think about this for a minute: this Jesus, who was born as an infant and laid in a manger, is the one who made and holds the entire universe together (Colossians 1:15–17). That very striking fact should boggle our minds and give us pause to worship the babe in the manger as the Lord of all. This amazing union of God and man is something that we cannot fully comprehend, but it is clearly taught in Scripture. The doctrine is known as the hypostatic union and describes how Jesus was fully God and fully man. Scripture teaches that Jesus had two natures in one Person—He was 100 percent God and 100 percent man—the God-Man, Jesus Christ. Early in the history of Christianity, this idea was attacked in several differ-

ent ways. Let's briefly review a few of them, pointing out the errors they lead to.

Arianism—Arius taught that Jesus was created by God at a certain point in time. This is similar to the modern view of Mormons. However, Scripture soundly refutes this idea. Jesus has always been fully God (Genesis 1; John 1). He was not created, but was the Creator of all things (Colossians 1:16). If we say Jesus was created, He can't be the Creator. Arianism is a false doctrine.

Docetism—The Gnostics and others in the first and second century taught that Jesus was a divine being who "appeared" (from the Greek *dokein*) to be a man but was not. If we adopt this view, we again find ourselves fighting against Scripture. Jesus had to come in a body and the form of a man so that He could identify with Adam's race, obey the Law as a man, and act as the substitute to appease God's wrath against mankind. The sin of the first Adam was removed by the Last Adam, our kinsman-redeemer (1 Corinthians 15:45–49).

Adoptionism—This view teaches that Jesus was born as a normal human and was adopted as the Son of God at His baptism. This view stands in contradiction to Scripture because it denies the virgin birth and the preexistence of Jesus as the Word that was with God in the beginning (John 1).

All of these views are heretical—they lead to a false view of Jesus and a false view of the salvation He offers. Holding to one of these views, or the many other variations (e.g., Apollinarianism, Modalism, Monophysitism, etc.), leads to a false gospel and damnation for those who persist in these errors (Galatians 1:6–12; 2 John 9).

These false views of Christ's nature arose early in church history. Arianism was part of the Trinitarian Controversy, which led to the Nicene Creed in AD 325, defining the orthodox view of Christ. In part it states: "I believe . . . in one Lord Jesus Christ . . . God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father."

Sadly, many of the false views of Jesus are held by people today. Understanding that Jesus is fully God and fully man is a necessary part of biblical Christianity. Our God humbled Himself to become like one of His creatures who had rebelled against Him and stepped into our lawless world, even being laid as a newborn baby in a feed trough. He came from the glories of heaven to a sin-cursed world to redeem rebels. God became man to bring mankind back to God.

Switching to a less-dangerous type of error, there are a lot of misconceptions about the birth of Christ in the minds of people. Many of these misconceptions

have come from relying on popular media or dramatic recreations of the birth narrative. Have you ever played the innkeeper in a Christmas pageant? Where did your lines come from? Well, they didn't come from the Bible because there is no innkeeper mentioned in the Bible! What about all of the animals? Well, none of them are mentioned in the Bible either. We infer that there were likely animals around since Jesus was laid in a manger, so having animals in a nativity scene is not unrealistic. Well, there were three wise men, right? We will answer that in the next lesson.

Many of these elements make for good drama, but they aren't found in Scripture. Most presentations have Mary barely making it off the donkey she rode from Nazareth before she goes into labor. But Scripture is clear that is not the case. Luke 2:1–7 gives the account. In those verses we read, "So it was, that while they were there, the days were completed for her to be delivered." They were already in Bethlehem for some time before the birth, possibly staying with relatives in a crowded house.

All of God's Word is true. And it is important that we study it and use it as our absolute authority. Regardless of whether our misconceptions lead to damnable error or some small misunderstandings, we cannot compromise the truth of the Word of God. We must seek biblical accuracy in order to glean a better understanding of the living Word, who became flesh to dwell among us, who lived a life of perfect obedience, and who died for our sins to redeem us. We can only learn about the Word, Jesus, from God's Word—the Bible. And we must be diligent to do that thoroughly and with discernment.



BEFORE THE THRONE

Dear Jesus, you are the Word made flesh, and I glorify your name. Some people say you were born to die. And while that is true, I also see that you were born to live, so that we, too, could live. Your life, from the very first moment, was an example for us. My desire is to be like you—humble and obedient. Thank you for the grace, truth, and clarity of the gospel. Please move in the hearts of the students in my class to see you for who you really are. Reveal the truth of your Word to them that they may one day come to humble repentance and faith and become new creations in Christ.



COME ON IN

As students arrive . . .

- They will review the memory verse by putting the Memory Verse Cards in order. If time allows, they will recite the verse to a friend or to the class.

This time at the beginning of class should be used to review the memory verse. We have provided this activity on the Resource DVD-ROM for you to use. You may have other ideas and ways to encourage your students to memorize the verse.



After all the students arrive, pray with them before beginning the lesson.



REVIEW

Using the Lesson Theme Posters provided with each lesson, quickly review the previous lesson(s) with your students. Take 5 to 10 minutes to reinforce the important truths the students have heard so far in your class.

Ask the children questions about the previous lessons as you display the Lesson Theme Posters. Reflect briefly on the passages you read, bringing the objectives and themes back into focus. This will refresh the truths in your students' minds and maintain continuity as you teach through the lessons.



Birth of Christ Class Notes Booklet

MATERIALS

- Birth of Christ Class Notes Booklet for each student
- Birth of Christ Class Notes Booklet Answer Key
- Pencils

INSTRUCTIONS

Print, cut, collate, and staple the class notes booklet for each student. Pass them out at the beginning of class. Have students complete the blanks as you study the lesson.

We will be completing these class notes booklets as we study the Bible passages. There is a Word Bank on page 6 to help you spell the answers. But don't work ahead. We'll complete these booklets together.

CONNECT TO THE TRUTH

As we complete the class notes booklets today, we will hear about Jesus's humble birth and why it was so surprising that He would come in this quiet and humble way.



Studying God's Word

READ THE WORD

Refer to the Lesson 7 Lesson Theme Poster. God sent the angel Gabriel to deliver some very important messages. First, the old priest Zacharias received the message that he would have a son, John. God would use John to prepare the hearts of the people for the Messiah.

► Use the New Testament History Poster included with your teacher kit as you teach the lesson. Emphasize that Jesus ministered only 3 years, and He lived only about 35 years. Yet His life changed the world forever and brought eternal life to all who believe.

► Read the completed answers on the class notes booklets together as you go through the lesson.

Luke 2:6–7

God’s angel Gabriel also appeared to Mary. She, too, would have a Son, and He would be called Jesus! He would be the Messiah, the Savior God had promised to send.

? Who was Mary’s baby—this Son the angel Gabriel told her about? *Jesus.*

? And who is Jesus? *Allow discussion.*

Jesus is God, and Jesus is man! Gabriel, the angel, told Mary that Jesus would be great! He was the one that the people had been waiting for. He would be King forever—His kingdom would never end.

You would think that the birth of a king would be a huge event! And Jesus was the King of kings and the long-awaited Savior! He was the Messiah, the one that the Old Testament Scriptures talked about. Jesus is God! You would think that He would come like a great king with a great big celebration! But that wasn’t in God’s plan.

We are going to read about Jesus’s birth from the Gospel of Luke.

Let me give you some background that you may already know. Mary was going to have the baby Jesus very soon. But Joseph and Mary had to travel from Nazareth where they lived, to Bethlehem for a census. A census is a way of counting all the people who live in a country. Joseph had to go to Bethlehem to be counted. So they had to make that trip.

? Before I read, look at page 1 on your class notes booklet. Can someone read that for us? How will you answer it? There are two names that need to be filled in. Which names are they? *Assign a reader. Mary, Jesus.*

OK. So they traveled to Bethlehem. Listen while I read from the Gospel of Luke. This tells us what happened when Mary and Joseph got to Bethlehem. *Read Luke 2:6–7.*

EXAMINE THE WORD

Observe the Text

? What happened while they were in Bethlehem? *Re-read Luke 2:7 if necessary. Mary gave birth to a son.*

? And where did Mary lay her baby? *Luke 2:7. In a manger.*

? Does anyone know what a manger is? *Allow discussion.*

Look at page 2 on your class notes booklet. A manger is something that holds food for animals in the barn. It may have been wooden like the one pictured, or it could have been a hollowed out stone. But it was something animals ate out of. This is where the Savior laid His head for the first time—in a feeding trough.

? Will someone read page 2 on your class notes booklet? How would you answer that? *Assign a reader. Baby. Complete the word by filling in the blanks.*

Don't forget the Word Bank on page 6. Use that to help you with the spelling!

- ? **Why was Jesus laid in a manger?** *Re-read Luke 2:7 if necessary. There was no room for them in the inn.*

Wow! Jesus came very quietly and humbly. Jesus was born in a simple way and laid in a manger. No one gave Him a grand, royal birthday party.

But God wanted *someone* to know that Jesus was born! Listen carefully. I'm going to read how God announced Jesus's birth. *Read Luke 2:8-14 emphasizing the answers to the questions below.*

Luke 2:8-14

- ? **In this verse we move from the manger out to the country. Who was in the country—out in the fields?** *Luke 2:8. Shepherds.*
- ? **What happened on this special night? What did the shepherds see?** *Re-read Luke 2:9 if necessary. An angel of the Lord.*
- ? **What did the shepherds think of this angel? How did they feel?** *Luke 2:9. They were greatly afraid.*
- ? *Refer to Lesson 7 Lesson Theme Poster. What are angels? Who remembers? God's messengers!*

Yes! God had sent His messenger, the angel Gabriel, to Zacharias and to Mary. Now again, God sent an angel, or messenger, to the shepherds in the fields with a very important announcement.

- ? **What did this messenger say?** *Re-read Luke 2:10. Do not be afraid! I bring good tidings of great joy.*
- ? **What was this great news—these good tidings of joy?** *Re-read Luke 2:11. A Savior is born. He is Christ the Lord!*

The angel said the Savior was born in the City of David, which is another name for Bethlehem. This is where Mary and Joseph had to go for the census. That's where Jesus was born.

- ? **Will someone read page 3 of your class notes booklet? How will you complete that?** *Assign a reader. Angel.*
- ? **God sent one angel to the shepherds. But what followed this one angel? What suddenly appeared? Do you remember? I'll read it again, listen.** *Re-read Luke 2:13. A multitude of the heavenly host.*
- ? **What does that mean? What is a multitude of the heavenly host?** *Allow discussion.*

A multitude is a whole lot! It's like a huge crowd. And the heavenly host are angels. So, it seems that God sent one angel to make the first announcement, and then a whole lot—a multitude—of angels appeared. It's as if they were throwing a birthday celebration for the King!

Luke 2:15–16

? They were praising God! What were they saying? What did the shepherds hear? *Luke 2:14. Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, goodwill toward men!*

Yes! They were praising God saying, “Glory to God in the highest!”

? Turn to page 4 on the class notes booklet. Who can read that for us? *Assign a reader. Glory.*

? Can you imagine that? That must have been amazing to see! How do you think you would feel if you were one of those shepherds watching all those angels, and hearing them praise God? *Allow discussion.*

This was another spectacular message sent by God to announce the Savior who would change the world!

So, what did the shepherds do as soon as the angels went back into heaven? Listen carefully while I read God’s true Word! *Read Luke 2:15–16.*

? Where did the shepherds go? *Luke 2:15. To Bethlehem.*

? Why did they want to go to Bethlehem? *Luke 2:15. To see the baby Jesus.*

? Who did they find in Bethlehem? *Re-read Luke 2:16. Mary, Joseph, and Jesus.*

The shepherds saw baby Jesus, the Savior. And after they saw Him, they rejoiced! And the Bible says they went and told many people what they had seen and heard about this special child born in Bethlehem. When they returned to the fields, they were glorifying and praising God.

Discover the Truth

Our God is so wonderful! He came into the world to save His people from their sins. And He did it in such a simple and humble way. Jesus was born to a young Jewish woman and her husband. They were not even at their home, but in another town when He was born. After He was born, they laid Him in a manger; a feeding trough was the first bed for the Lord Jesus.

Then God sent His messengers, His angels, to announce Jesus’s birth. God didn’t send His angels to kings, rulers, or religious leaders—but to simple shepherds who were out in the field caring for their sheep. What humble beginnings for Jesus—this man who would one day die for sinners so that we could be forgiven and spend eternity with Him.



READ THE WORD

? The way Jesus came into the world should surprise us all! Why would I say that? Who is Jesus? *Jesus is God!*

That’s right, Jesus is God! Listen as I read this verse from the book of John. This is what Jesus said while He lived on earth. *Read John 10:30.*

? Who is Jesus one with? *John 10:30. The Father.*

John 10:30

? And who is the Father? *Re-read John 10:30. God.*

Yes. Jesus knew who He was. He and the Father—God—are one.

? Will someone read page 5 on your class notes booklet? How will you answer that? *Assign a reader. God.*

Discover the Truth

The Bible tells us that Jesus Christ IS God! Jesus Christ IS man, too! Jesus said He was God. He is God, the Creator of the world, who came to earth as a man to save sinners. Jesus had to give up heaven to come to earth. He was no longer honored and glorified. In fact, we know that many people hated Him, and they ended up killing Him on the Cross.

That is why we should be surprised at how Jesus was born and lived. The God who created the universe could have been born anywhere. He could have had the best of everything. He could have had a grand, royal birthday celebration! Instead, it was God's plan that He be born in a simple and humble way to a young Jewish woman and her husband and then laid in a manger. His birth announcement was made by a heavenly host of angels to lowly shepherds who were out in the fields with the sheep! Jesus, the God-Man, came to earth in a simple way as a humble servant.

? Who will read page 6 on your class notes booklet? What is the answer to that? *Assign a reader. Simple.*



➤ We suggest you do the What the Bible Says activity AFTER the God's Word in the Real World section below. The activity will make more sense after you discuss those points.



Applying God's Word

WHAT YOU HEARD IN THE WORD

Refer to the Lesson 8 Lesson Theme Poster. Our God is so wonderful! He came into the world to save His people from their sins. And He did it in such a simple and humble way. He was born to a young Jewish woman and her husband. After He was born, they laid Him in a manger. A feeding trough was the first bed for the Lord Jesus, in a room used for the animals.

Then God sent His messengers to announce Jesus's birth. God didn't send His angels to kings, rulers, or religious leaders—but to simple shepherds who were out in the field caring for their sheep. What humble beginnings for Jesus—this man who would one day die for sinners so that we could be forgiven and spend eternity with Him.

This is VERY surprising because of who Jesus is. Jesus is the King of kings! Jesus is God! Jesus knew He was God! And yet He came to earth in the simplest of ways. It is amazing! The Creator God entered this world in

► Play the game in the activity below when you have finished discussing the God's Word in the Real World section. The discussion will explain further what the game is about.

such a way—quietly, humbly, simply. And He lived a simple, humble life. He truly is worthy of our praise!

GOD'S WORD IN THE REAL WORLD

This account of Jesus's birth is true. We know that ALL of God's Word is true. And we shouldn't add or take away from what it says. But sometimes it's easy to forget that. Let me explain what I mean.

Throughout the 2,000 years since Jesus was born, people have added their own ideas about Jesus's birth.

For example, we often hear about an "innkeeper" who helped Mary and Joseph. People believe there was an innkeeper because the Bible says, "There was no room for them in the inn" (Luke 2:7).

But wait! The Bible doesn't mention an innkeeper anywhere! In fact the word "inn" used in the Bible had a completely different meaning in Jesus's time. Now when we think of an inn, we probably picture a hotel with lots of rooms. But the Bible was talking about a room in someone's house. And when Mary and Joseph got to the house, that upper room was being used, so Mary and Joseph stayed downstairs in a lower room—where animals were often kept—to have the baby Jesus.

Usually we see animals in the typical Christmas scenes, too. But there are no animals mentioned in these Bible verses!

The only animals mentioned are the sheep in the fields where the shepherds were tending them. And the Bible doesn't say they brought any sheep with them when they came to see Jesus.

There are other people we sometimes hear about in popular Christmas stories and songs—like the innkeeper's wife and a drummer boy. But these are not mentioned in God's Word either.

We are going to play a game now. I will show you some pictures of things, and you will tell me if you think the Bible talks about those things or not.





What The Bible Says

MATERIALS

- What The Bible Says Cards
- What The Bible Says Answer Key
- “Yes” and “No” signs attached to the board
- Poster putty
- Bag for the cards

Print and cut out the cards and signs. Place the cards in a grab bag. Attach the “Yes” and “No” signs to the board. Call on students at random to choose a card from the grab bag, read it aloud, and put it on the board in the column under the appropriate sign—“Yes, it IS in the Bible” or “No, it is NOT in the Bible.” When everyone is finished, go through the cards, indicating which items and people the Bible actually DOES mention in the account of Jesus’s birth in Luke 2:1–20.

I have some cards in this grab bag. We read what the Bible says about Jesus’s birth. When I call on you, you may come and grab out one card. Read what it says and show it to everyone. Then bring it here to the board and put it under the “Yes, it IS in the Bible” or “No, it is NOT in the Bible” column. *Have students take turns choosing their cards and putting them in the proper place.*

CONNECT TO THE TRUTH

When finished, discuss the items that ARE and ARE NOT mentioned in the Bible. See the answer key for the answers.

Sometimes we see things about God or the Bible on TV or in books, and we might think, “That must be in the Bible, it must be true, because it is on TV!” But that isn’t always true. That is why Bible study is so important. God means every word He wrote in the Bible. And He doesn’t want us to add to or take away from His Word.

We have to be careful when we listen to people, including teachers. We have to study God’s Word. If you have any questions about what you are hearing, ask your mom or dad to help you find the answers in the Bible. It isn’t always easy, and sometimes things are confusing. We all need help understanding. But God is pleased when we try to read His Word correctly so we can know Him better.





Memory Verse Review Game (Optional)

Philippians 2:8 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.

If you find you have extra time, please consider reviewing the memory verse with your class using this activity.

MATERIALS

- One set of Memory Verse Cards from Come On In Activity
- Masking tape

INSTRUCTIONS

Allow students to look at the Memory Verse Poster and say the verse together as a class a couple of times. Remove or cover the poster before the game begins. Tape the Memory Verse Cards onto 10 students' backs. Students will work together to put themselves in order according to the memory verse. Once they think they are standing in order, check the verse by reading the words out loud according to how they are standing.

If you have fewer than 10 students, tape more than one card in the proper order, on some students. If you have more than 10 students, assign the students without the cards to put the students with the cards into the proper order. Repeat if time allows.

We're going to practice our memory verse. Let's say the verse together a couple times.

Tape the 10 cards on the students' backs. Now I am going to tape these 10 Memory Verse Cards to 10 backs! Once I have done that, I want you to work together to get into the right order.

We'll check the verse when you are finished. You have to work together and help each other get in order. *Most groups may need a time limit to encourage them to move at a quick pace. If so, let them know the limit and use a timer to count down the time. Once the students think they are in the right order, check them by reading the words out loud.*

CONNECT TO THE TRUTH

We heard in our lesson today how Jesus came to earth in a humble way. And this verse tells us that Jesus did humble Himself and became obedient to death, even the death of the Cross. This was God's plan so people could be forgiven of their sins and saved for eternal life. All who turn from their sins and trust in Jesus will be saved because of the sacrifice Jesus made on the Cross.



Group Prayer Time

➤ Pass out the Student Take Home Sheets and remind the children to practice the memory verse this week.

- Praise God for Jesus, who is fully God and fully man.
- Thank God for Jesus who came to earth humbly as a baby.
- Ask God to help us remember to look only to the Bible for truth and not to add to or take away from what He has given us.