

The Birth of Christ Part #1 The Stable (Preschool Bible Lesson)

 ministry-to-children.com/tbirth-of-christ-lesson-one-preschool

Felicia Mollohan

November 10,
2009

This is the first of a 3-part series on The Birth of Christ. This lesson plan is designed to teach preschool aged children about the Christmas Story based on the details of being born in a stable. It could be used in any setting with children age 2-5 at church, including a preschool Sunday School class or a preschool children's church class. As always, consider your own ministry context and modify it as needed. Please leave any feedback or suggestions for improvement in the comment box at the bottom of this page.

Bible Story: The birth of Jesus Christ – The Stable – Luke 2:1-2

Printable Booklet: [Birth of Christ, Stable Booklet PDF](#)

Learning Objectives: After this lesson, the children will demonstrate an understanding of Jesus' birth by answering questions.

Target Age: 2 year olds – 5 year olds

Items Needed:

- [\[print_link\]](#) this less plan
- Bible, Luke 2:1-7
- "The Birth of Christ – The Stable" Booklet (This can be printed out here "The Birth of Christ – The Stable" Booklet
- Plastic animals
- 1 piece of construction paper per child, picture of Mary, Joseph, Baby Jesus and the star (1 each per child), 4 craft sticks per child, glue, crayons, marker
- Felt board, the following pictures with felt on the back: Jesus, boy and girl, burst or star, hospital, clothes, car, people, church, career man and woman

Worship: You can print off these [Christmas Preschool Songs](#) to use to lead the children to sing before the Bible lesson.

Teaching Plan: The Birth of Christ – The Stable

Bible Lesson Introduction

Have some plastic animals for the children to play with. Talk with them, while they are playing, that there were animals where Jesus was born.

Bible Lesson: Use the following notes as a guide, but be sure to tell the Bible story in your own words. If possible memorize your key points and just teach as you read the relevant verses directly out of the Bible.

Read Luke 2:1-7 aloud to the children. There is also a book that you can print out that has the story along with simple pictures to help the children understand what is being read.

In those days, Caesar Augustus made a law. It required that a list be made of everyone in the whole Roman world. It was the first time a list was made of the people while Quirinius was governor of Syria. All went to their own towns to be listed.

So Joseph went also. He went from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea. That is where Bethlehem, the town of David, was. Joseph went there because he belonged to the family line of David. He went there with Mary to be listed. Mary was engaged to him. She was expecting a baby.

While Joseph and Mary were there, the time came for the child to be born. She gave birth to her first baby. It was a boy. She wrapped him in large strips of cloth. Then she placed him in a manger. There was no room for them in the inn.

Read the verses (story) to the children. If you are using the print out story, point to the pictures as you read the story so that the children can better understand what you are saying.

Read the verses (story) again, but this time have the children do the following hand motions when you say the words:

list or listed – making an imaginary list

Joseph – stand tall

Mary – smile

baby or boy– rock a baby

Discuss the Bible Reading

When you are finished reading the story the second time, ask the children the following questions so that you can know they understood it.

“Who was in the story?” *Mary, Joseph, Jesus*

“Why did Joseph have to go to Bethlehem?” *To be counted on the list*

“What did Mary lay Baby Jesus in?” *A Manger*

“Why were they in a stable?” *There was no room in the inn*

Bible Lesson Craft / Activity

Use the following activities to reinforce the learning goals. If time is short, move on to the evaluation portion of the lesson plan.

Activity: The Nativity

“What was our story about today? (allow for responses) Jesus was born in our story today. Jesus was born in a stable. Does anyone know what a stable is? (allow for responses) A stable is like a barn. It’s a place where animals, like sheep, cows, and horses are kept safe and warm. The city was so busy and full that no one had a room for Mary and Joseph to be in, so they had to give birth to Jesus in a stable. We are going to make a stable today for you to take home. Let’s get started.”

- Give each child a piece of construction paper
- Demonstrate to the children how to glue their 4 craft sticks for the stable walls and roof.
- Let the children color their star, Mary, Joseph and Baby Jesus
- While the children are coloring, go around and write each child’s name on their paper
- When each child is finished coloring, help them glue their pieces onto their background.
- While the children are waiting for everyone else to be finished, they can draw in animals around their stable.

Activity: Bible Verse Memorization

“She gave birth to her firstborn, a son. She wrapped him in cloths and placed him in a manger, because there was no room for them in the inn.” Luke 2:7 (New International Reader’s Version)

Have the children do the following hand motions along with repeating the words after you, to help them learn the Bible Verse:

She gave birth to her first born, a son : act like you are rocking a baby

She wrapped him in clothes: wrap a pretend baby in a blanket

And placed him in a manger: pretend to gently lay the baby down

Because there was no room: shake head side to side as though saying, “no”

For them in the inn: make the shape of a house with your arms

Luke 2: hold up 2 fingers

7: hold up 7 fingers

Do this a few times with the children. Make it fun for them to do the motions and say the words. Involving them in active learning is essential for memorization at this age.

Bible Verse Activity: Jesus and Me

"In our Bible story and in our Bible Verse today, we learned about Jesus being born. You all were born. Let's talk about when you were born. I am going to ask you some questions and I want you to answer them about when you were born."

Put the felt board up with the picture of Jesus on one side and the picture of the boy and girl on the other side.

They may not know the answer to some of the questions. Guide their answers, but take whatever answer they give you. The pictures should help them.

- * The city I was born in was.... (burst or star)
- * I was born in a.... (hospital)
- * When I was born, my mother dressed me in.... (clothes)
- * If my family had to travel someplace 50 miles away, we would.... (car)
- * After I was born, I was visited by.... (people)
- * On most Sunday mornings you will find me.... (church)
- * When I grow up, I will.... (career man and woman)

Evaluation:

Ask the following question about Jesus' birth this time.

- * What city was Jesus born in? *Bethlehem*
- * What was Jesus born in? *Stable*
- * When Jesus was born, his mother dressed him in what? *Swaddling clothes*
- * How did Jesus' mother get to Bethlehem? *On a donkey*
- * Who visited Jesus after He was born? *Shepherds and wise men*
- * What did Jesus become when He grew up? *The savior of the world*

Need More Help? Browse all our [preschool Bible lesson](#) or try this Christmas finger play song for preschoolers.

[Total: 0 Average: 0/5]

The Birth of Christ #2 – The Shepherds (Preschool Bible Lesson)

 ministry-to-children.com/birth-of-christ-shepherds-preschool

Felicia Mollohan

November 16,
2009

This is the second of a 3-part series on The Birth of Christ. This lesson plan is designed to teach preschool aged children about the Christmas Story based on the details of the Shepherds' visit to see the baby Jesus. It could be used in any setting with children age 2-5 at church, including a preschool Sunday School class or a preschool children's church class. As always, consider your own ministry context and modify it as needed. Please leave any feedback or suggestions for improvement in the comment box at the bottom of this page.

Bible Story: The Birth of Jesus Christ – The Shepherds – Luke 2:8-20

Learning Objectives: After this lesson, the children will demonstrate an understanding of the shepherds' visit by retelling the story with teacher's prompts.

Target Age: 2 year olds – 5 year olds

Items Needed:

- [\[print_link\]](#) this lesson plan
- Bible, Luke 2:8-20
- ["The Birth of Christ – The Shepherds" Booklet](#)
- 1 sheep cutout per child, cotton balls, glue
- ½ paper plate per child, construction paper, cotton balls, yellow yarn cut into 2" strips, glue, stapler, crayons, scissors
- 1 [Candy Cane Poem](#) per child, 1 miniature candy cane per child, 1 large candy cane per child, tape

Worship: Use the ["Christmas Songs"](#) (extra print out) to lead the children to sing before the Bible lesson.

Teaching Plan: The Birth of Christ – The Shepherds

Welcome Activity

Welcome activities are things to have out for the children to do as they are arriving for class. These activities will get them engaged as soon as they arrive and will help the transition from their parents.

Have some cotton balls available for the children to play with. Let them use their imaginations! If they are having trouble...have a "cotton ball fight". They'll think it's cool to throw things.

Worship: Christmas Songs

Bible Lesson Introduction

Have a cutout of a sheep and some cotton balls available for the children. Let them glue cotton balls onto the printout so that the sheep will be fluffy.

Bible Lesson

Read Luke 2:8-20 (NIRV) aloud to the children. There is also a book that you can print out that has the story along with simple pictures to help the children understand what is being read.

Read the verses (story) to the children. If you are using the print out story, point to the pictures as you read the story so that the children can better understand what you are saying.

8 There were shepherds living out in the fields nearby. It was night, and they were looking after their sheep. 9 An angel of the Lord appeared to them. And the glory of the Lord shone around them. They were terrified. 10 But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid. I bring you good news of great joy. It is for all the people. 11 Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you. He is Christ the Lord. 12 Here is how you will know I am telling you the truth. You will find a baby wrapped in strips of cloth and lying in a manger." 13 Suddenly a large group of angels from heaven also appeared. They were praising God. They said, 14 "May glory be given to God in the highest heaven! And may peace be given to those he is pleased with on earth!"

15 The angels left and went into heaven. Then the shepherds said to one another, "Let's go to Bethlehem. Let's see this thing that has happened, which the Lord has told us about." 16 So they hurried off and found Mary and Joseph and the baby. The baby was lying in the manger. 17 After the shepherds had seen him, they told everyone. They reported what the angel had said about this child. 18 All who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds said to them. 19 But Mary kept all these things like a secret treasure in her heart. She thought about them over and over. 20 The shepherds returned. They gave glory and praise to God. Everything they had seen and heard was just as they had been told.

Read the verses (story) again, but this time have the children make the following sounds when these words are read:

- Angel – Awww

- Shepherds – Baa

Discuss the Bible Reading

When you are finished reading the story the second time, ask the children the following questions so that you can know they understood it.

- “Who was in the story?” *Shepherds, Angels, Jesus, Mary, Joseph*
- “Were the shepherds afraid when the angel appeared?” *Yes*
- “What did the angel tell the shepherds?” *That Jesus had been born*
- “Did the shepherds go see Jesus?” *Yes*

Bible Lesson Craft / Activity

Use the following activities to reinforce the learning goals. If time is short, move on to the evaluation portion of the lesson plan.

Activity: Cone Angel

Before class: roll up the ½ paper plates into a cone shape and staple and cut circles out of the construction paper for the angel’s face

“What was our Bible Story about today? (allow for responses) Yes, our story today was about the shepherds finding out about the birth of Jesus. Who told the shepherds about Jesus? (allow for responses) Right, an angel. Wouldn’t it be cool to see an angel? It would be so exciting and maybe a little bit scary too. At first the shepherds were scared, but then they were ok.

We are going to make an angel today to help us remember who told the shepherds about Jesus.”

- Give each child a paper plate cone
- Trace each child’s hands on the construction paper and cut them out
- As you are tracing the children’s hands, let them color their paper plate cone
- Demonstrate to the children how to glue their cut out hands onto their cone for the angel’s wings
- Give each child an angel face to decorate
- Have the children glue on the angel face
- Give each child a piece of yellow yarn
- Help the children glue the yellow yarn onto the angel’s head for the halo
- Demonstrate to the children how to stretch the cotton balls and then have them glue them onto their angel

Activity: Bible Verse Memorization

“There were shepherds living out in the fields nearby. An angel of the Lord appeared to them. They were terrified.” Luke 2:8&9 (NIRV)

Have the children do the following hand motions along with repeating the words after you, to help them learn the Bible Verse:

There were shepherds: act like you are holding up a shepherd's staff

Living out in the fields nearby: sweep arms in front of you as though you are showing the ground

An angel of the Lord: hold arms up as in surprise

Appeared to the: close eyes and then open eyes

They were terrified: have a scared look on your face

Luke 2: hold up 2 fingers

8 & 9: hold up 8 fingers and then 9 fingers

Do this a few times with the children. Make it fun for them to do the motions and say the words. Involving them in active learning is essential for memorization at this age.

Bible Verse Activity: Candy Cane Poem

Hold up the candy cane and show the parts as you talk about them

Give each child a mini candy cane to eat while you are talking about the candy cane.

"We are going to talk about what this candy cane has to do with our Bible Verse. (hold the candy cane right side up) What does this look like? (allow for responses) If I was a shepherd, I would need a crook. A crook would help me to guide my sheep where they needed to go. This looks like a crook. This candy cane also has things about Jesus. If I hold it upside down, it looks like a "J" which is the first letter of Jesus' name. The candy cane is white with red stripes. The white is for how pure we are with Jesus in our life and the red stands for Jesus' blood that He shed for us on the cross. Also, if you look closely, you will see 3 red stripes on this candy cane. These stand for the Father, Son and the Holy Spirit. Wow! This yummy candy has such a great meaning that we should share with our families. (hold up the poem) You all will be bringing this home so that we can share the Good News with your family. (read the poem for the children)

Have the children attach a large candy cane to their poem to take home.

Evaluation:

Have the children (as a class) retell the story of the shepherds' visit in their own words. Prompt them if they get stuck on a part.

Evaluation: Split the children into pairs. Have them tell the Bible story in their own words.

Need More Help? Browse all our [Christmas Ideas](#) and [Christmas Sunday School lessons for children](#) or find the right [Craft Idea for Christmas](#)

[Total: 0 Average: 0/5]

Christmas Lessons #3 The Wise Men (Preschool Bible Lesson)

 ministry-to-children.com/the-birth-of-christ-wise-men-preschool

Felicia Mollohan

November 20,
2009

This is the final preschool lesson in a 3-part series on The Birth of Christ. It is designed to teach preschooler about the Christmas Story based on the details of the Wise Mens' visit to see the Jesus.

It could be used in any setting with children age 2-5 at church, including a preschool Sunday School class or a preschool children's church class. As always, consider your own ministry context and modify it as needed. Please leave any feedback or suggestions for improvement in the comment box at the bottom of this page.

Preschool Bible Lesson

Bible Story: The Birth of Jesus Christ – The Stable – Matthew 2:1-12

Learning Objectives: After this lesson, the children will demonstrate an understanding of the wise men's visit by acting out the story.

Target Age: 2 year olds – 5 year olds

Items Needed:

- [\[print_link\]](#) this lesson plan
- Bible, Matthew 2:1-12
- ["The Birth of Christ – The Wise Men" Booklet](#)
- 1 paper lunch bag per child, decorating supplies – stamps, stickers, markers, etc.
- 5 craft sticks per child, glue, 1 yarn circle per child, glitter, marker to write their names on their project
- Tissue paper, wrapping supplies
- 1 Large piece of paper labeled "Our Gifts to Jesus", crayons

Worship:

- Use the ["Christmas Songs"](#) (extra print out) to lead the children to sing before the Bible lesson.

- Sing the Wise Men & Baby Jesus Song

Teaching Plan: The Birth of Christ – The Wise Men

Welcome Activity

Welcome activities are things to have out for the children to do as they are arriving for class. These activities will get them engaged as soon as they arrive and will help the transition from their parents.

Have stamps, stickers, markers and other decorating supplies available for the children to decorate a lunch bag for their parents. Make sure that each child puts their name on their bag. We will use these bags later in the lesson.

Worship: Christmas Songs above

Bible Lesson Introduction

“We are going to do a craft a little early today because it needs to be able to dry. We are going to make a star today. This has a lot to do with our story today. There is a very special star that we are going to learn about during the Bible story.”

- Give each child 2 craft sticks and demonstrate to them how to glue them to each other so that it makes one long stick
- Have the children glue their yarn “circle” onto the top of their sticks (this will be so that they can hang it on their tree at home)
- Give each child 2 more craft sticks and have them glue them in an “x” onto the previously glued sticks
- Give each child 1 craft stick and have them glue this one across the center of the “x”
- Have each child write their name on the back of their star
- Have the children glue the yarn circle onto the back of their “star” to make it an ornament
- Let the children use the glitter and glue to decorate their star
- Lay off to the side to dry (you will be wrapping them later)

Bible Lesson

Read Matthew 2:1-12 (NIRV) aloud to the children. There is also a book that you can print out that has the story along with simple pictures to help the children understand what is being read.

Read the verses (story) to the children. If you are using the print out story, point to the pictures as you read the story so that the children can better understand what you are saying.

1 Jesus was born in Bethlehem in Judea. This happened while Herod was king of Judea. After Jesus' birth, Wise Men from the east came to Jerusalem. 2 They asked, "Where is the child who has been born to be king of the Jews? When we were in the east, we saw his star. Now we have come to worship him."

3 When King Herod heard about it, he was very upset. Everyone in Jerusalem was troubled too. 4 So Herod called together all the chief priests of the people. He also called the teachers of the law. He asked them where the Christ was going to be born.

5 "In Bethlehem in Judea," they replied. "This is what the prophet has written. He said,

6 " 'But you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, are certainly not the least important among the towns of Judah.

A ruler will come out of you.

He will be the shepherd of my people Israel.' " —(Micah 5:2)

7 Then Herod called for the Wise Men secretly. He found out from them exactly when the star had appeared. 8 He sent them to Bethlehem. He said, "Go! Make a careful search for the child. As soon as you find him, bring me a report. Then I can go and worship him too."

9 After the Wise Men had listened to the king, they went on their way. The star they had seen when they were in the east went ahead of them. It finally stopped over the place where the child was. 10 When they saw the star, they were filled with joy.

11 The Wise Men went to the house. There they saw the child with his mother Mary. They bowed down and worshiped him. Then they opened their treasures. They gave him gold, incense and myrrh.

12 But God warned them in a dream not to go back to Herod. So they returned to their country on a different road.

Read the verses (story) again, but this time have the children have the children act like they are the wise men by doing the following motions:

Jesus' birth or born – rock a pretend baby in your arms

Star – make blinking motions with fingers in the sky

Joy – smile big

House – make the shape of a house with your fingers

Bowed down – bow down

Gave him – show a giving motion with your arms

Discuss the Bible Reading

When you are finished reading the story the second time, ask the children the following questions so that you can know they understood it.

"Who was in the story?" *baby Jesus, Mary, wise men*

"What did the wise men follow?" *a star*

"Who were the wise men trying to find?" *Jesus*

"What did the wise men give to baby Jesus?" *gifts: gold, incense and myrrh*

Bible Lesson Craft / Activity

Use the following activities to reinforce the learning goals. If time is short, move on to the evaluation portion of the lesson plan.

Activity: Wrap Gift for Parents

"The wise men brought Jesus gifts to show that they love Him. You all made a star earlier in class today. That is going to be a gift from you to your parents."

Let the children wrap their stars, put them in their decorated bag.

Activity: Bible Verse Memorization

"The Wise Men went to the house. They bowed down and worshiped him. They gave him gold, incense and myrrh." Matthew 2:11 (NIRV)

Have the children do the following hand motions along with repeating the words after you, to help them learn the Bible Verse:

The Wise Men: point to your forehead

Went to the house: make the shape of a house with your hands

They bowed down: bow

And worshipped him: raise your hands in the sky

They gave him: hold out your hands as though you are giving something

Gold: move your fingers around as though something is twinkling

Incense and myrrh: make a sniffing sound

Matthew 2: hold up 2 fingers

11: hold up all 10 fingers and then 1

Do this a few times with the children. Make it fun for them to do the motions and say the words. Involving them in active learning is essential for memorization at this age.

Bible Verse Activity: Gift for Jesus

"In our Bible Verse today, we learned that the wise men brought Jesus gifts after He was born. I want you to think what you would give to Jesus. We are going to make Him a big class gift."

Have the children take turns drawing pictures of their gifts for Jesus.

Ask the children what their gift would be and write that, with their name, next to their drawing.

Evaluation: Have the children (as a class) retell the story of the shepherds' visit in their own words. Prompt them if they get stuck on a part.

Need More Help? Browse all our [Christmas Ideas](#) and [Christmas Sunday School lessons for children](#) or find the right [Craft Idea for Christmas](#)

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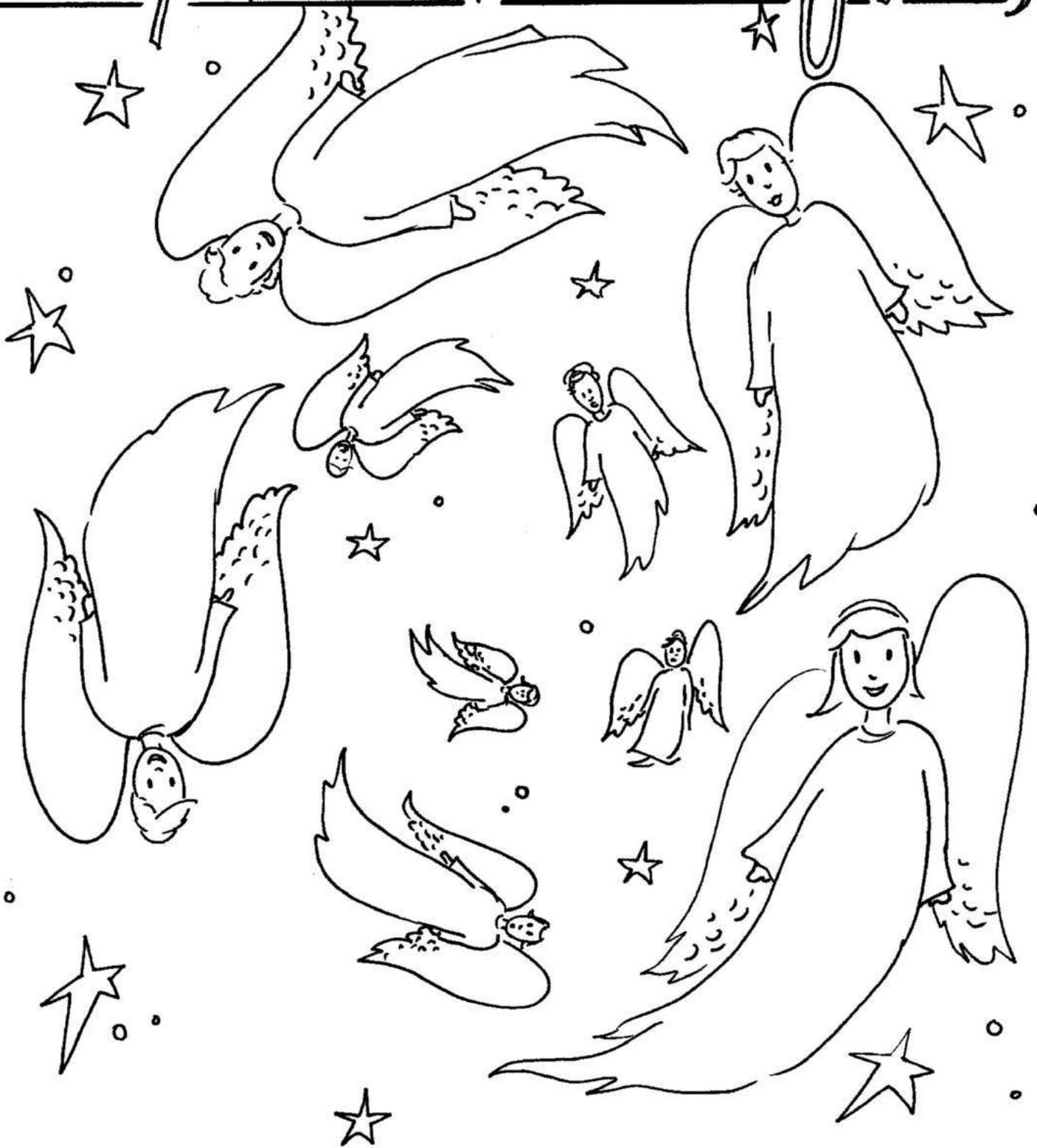
Because of Jesus

We have a Savior!

Luke 2:11

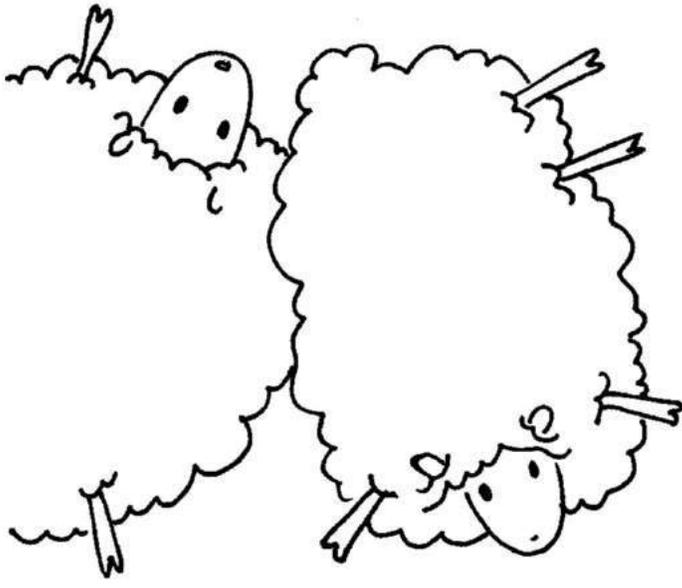


Glory to God in the highest;



and on earth peace among those with whom he is pleased!

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Mandy Groce '11

Look at the Candy Cane

What do you see?

Stripes that are red

Like the blood shed for me

White is for my Savior

Who's sinless and pure!

"J" is for Jesus My Lord, that's for sure!

Turn it around,

And a staff you will see

Jesus my shepherd

Was born for Me!



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Candy Cane Poem about Jesus

 ministry-to-children.com/candy-cane-poem-about-jesus

Felicia Mollohan

November 13,
2009

Here is a popular poem about the Christmas candy cane and how it can remind us of the Gospel. I have seen this used alongside the legend of the candy cane, but I think it's better to *leave the legend part out*. Just use it as an object lesson or children's sermon for the children. Say, "Let me teach you a poem about the candy cane that will help us to remember Jesus this Christmas season."

We have prepared a handout of this poem that you can download and print. Each page is divided into four parts and includes the poem alongside a simple graphic of a candy cane. [Click here](#) to download the Candy Cane Poem.

Christmas Candy Cane Poem about Jesus

Look at the Candy Cane
What do you see?
Stripes that are red
Like the blood shed for me
White is for my Savior
Who's sinless and pure!
"J" is for Jesus My Lord, that's for sure!
Turn it around
And a staff you will see
Jesus my shepherd
Was born for Me!

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Help you tell kids about Jesus!

Our team is honored that you choose our material. Thank you for ...

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- telling children about Jesus.
- allowing us to be a part of your mission.

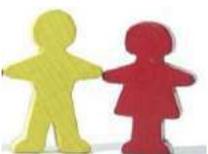
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4. Tell a friend to google "Ministry to Children."
5. Add me (and our team) to your personal prayer list.

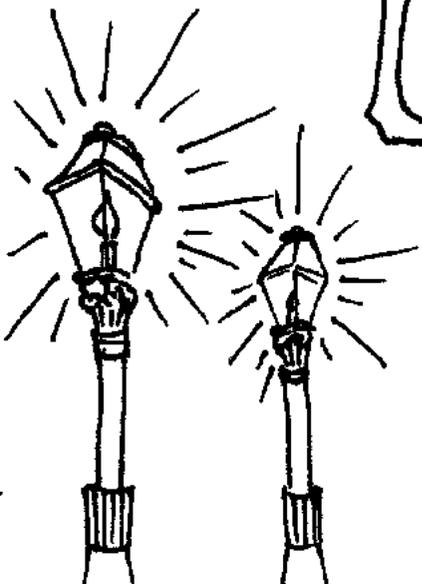
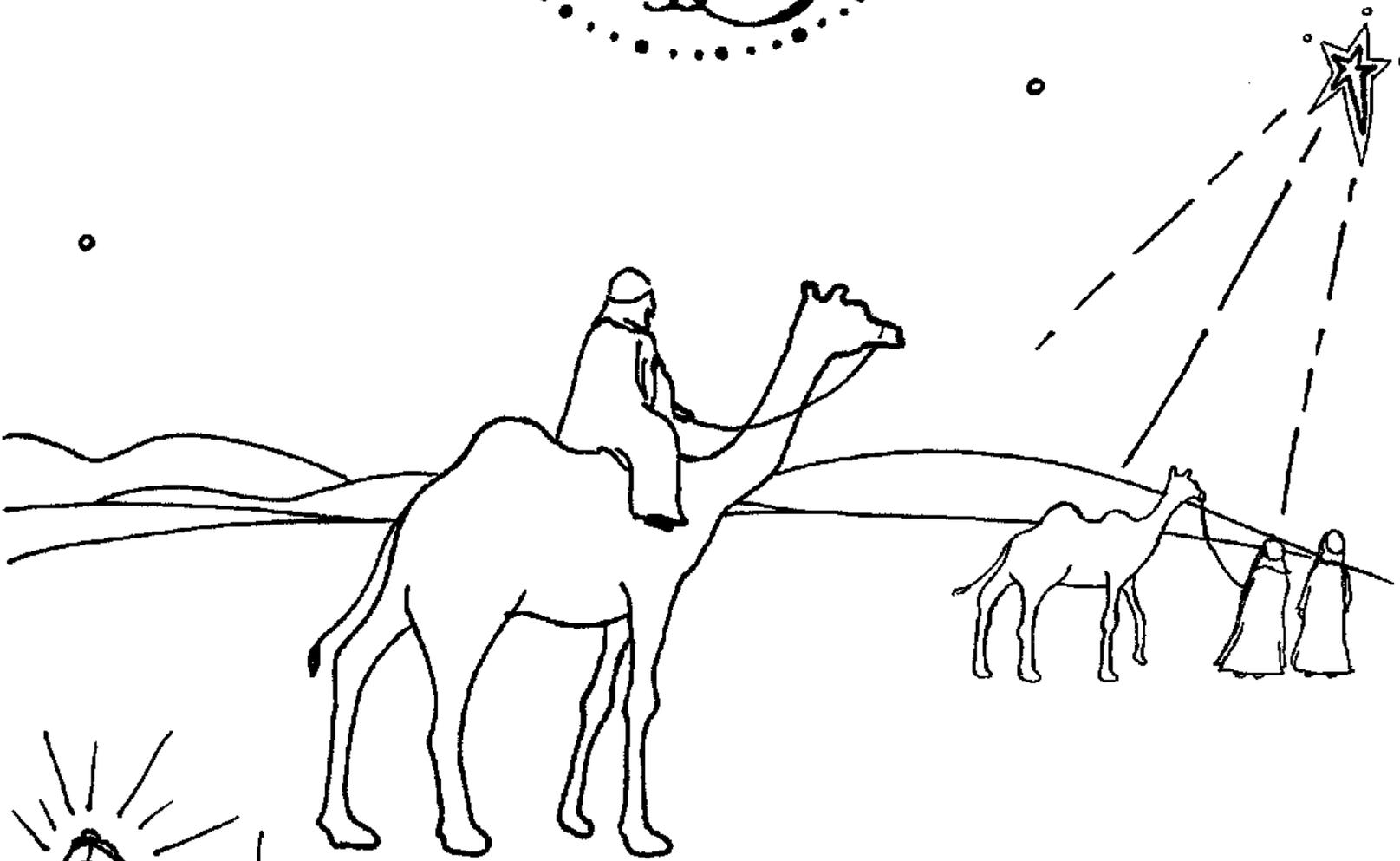
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Jesus
IS OUR
Way



Mandy Groce '12

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Preschool Christmas Songs

 ministry-to-children.com/preschool-christmas-songs

Felicia Mollohan

November 9,
2009

Here are several simple songs about Christmas for children. They would be a great addition to a [Christmas Sunday School lesson](#) or in children's church. Because they are so simple, they would be great for preschool aged children at church. These songs were collected from several sources around the Internet. If you have another to share leave it in the comment section below. Click [here](#) to let us know about your favorite Christmas songs for Preschoolers.

Three Wise Men

(To the tune of Three Blind Mice.)

Three wise men, three wise men
Traveling a far, seeing a star
They found the Savior in Bethlehem
Fell on their knees to worship
Never before had there ever been a Child like Him
Three wise men.

Three wise men, three wise men.
Followed the star, followed it far.
They followed the star to Bethlehem
Bow down and worshiped the newborn king
Gave gold, and myrrh, and frankincense,
To Jesus the king.

Baby Jesus Song

(To the tune of "Are you sleeping Brother John")

Baby Jesus, baby Jesus, (cup and rock your arms)
please don't cry, please don't cry. (rub eyes)
Don't you know I love you, Don't you know I love you, (give yourself a hug)
Very much, very much. (arms out wide)

Baby Jesus, baby Jesus, (cup and rock your arms)
born to us, born to us. (arms on chest)
Come let us adore Him, Come let us adore Him. (praying hands)
Joyously, joyously. (Arms up)

Baby Jesus, Baby Jesus (cup and rock your arms)
Born to us, Born to us (arms on chest)
You came to save us, You came to save us (raise hands to heaven)
Amen, Amen (prayerful hands)

Baby Jesus, Baby Jesus (cup and rock your arms)
We love you, We love you (hug yourself)
We're going to heaven, going to heaven (point upwards)
Thank you, Thank you (prayerful hands)

Away in a Manger

Away in a manger, no crib for His bed,
The little Lord Jesus lay down his sweet head.
The stars in the sky looked down where He lay
The little Lord Jesus, asleep on the hay.

The cattle are lowing, the poor Baby wakes,
But little Lord Jesus, no crying He makes;
I love Thee, Lord Jesus, look down from the sky
And stay by my cradle till morning is nigh.

Be near me, Lord Jesus, I ask Thee to stay,
Close by me forever, and love me, I pray!
Bless all the dear children in Thy tender care
And take us to heaven, to Live with Thee there.

Do You Hear What I Hear?

Said the night wind to the little lamb, "Do you see what I see?
Way up in the sky, little lamb. Do you see what I see?
A star, a star, dancing in the night
With a tail as big as a kite, with a tail as big as a kite."

Said the little lamb to the shepherd boy, "Do you hear what I hear?
Ringing through the sky, shepherd boy. Do you hear what I hear?
A song, a song high above the trees
With a voice as big as the sea, with a voice as big as the sea.

Said the shepherd boy to the mighty king, "Do you know what I know?
In your palace warm, mighty king. Do you know what I know?
A Child, a Child shivers in the cold-
Let us bring him silver and gold, let us bring him silver and gold."

Said the king to the people everywhere, "Listen to what I say!
Pray for peace, people, everywhere. Listen to what I say!
The Child, the Child sleeping in the night
He will bring us goodness and light. He will bring us goodness and light.
The Child, the Child sleeping in the night
He will bring us goodness and light,

Joy to the World

Joy to the world! the Lord is come;
Let earth receive her King;
Let every heart prepare Him room,
and heaven and nature sing,
and heaven and nature sing,
and heaven, and heaven and nature sing.

Joy to the earth! the Savior reigns;
Let men their songs employ;
while fields and floods,
rocks, hills and plains
Repeat the sounding joy,
Repeat the sounding joy,
Repeat, repeat the sounding joy.

No more let sins and sorrows grow,
nor thorns infest the ground;
He comes to make His blessing flow
far as the curse is found,
far as the curse is found,
far as, far as the curse is found.

He rules the world with truth and grace,
and makes the nations prove
the glories of His righteousness,
and wonders of His love,
and wonders of His love,
and wonders, wonders of His love.

Christmas Bells

(To the tune of "Jingle Bells".)

Christmas bells, Christmas Bells,
Ring them all the day.
God the Father sent His son on that first Christmas Day.
Oh, Christmas bells, Christmas bells,
ring them all the day.
God the Father sent His son on that first Christmas day.

Need More Help? Check out this finger play song about the Wise men or browse more [preschool Sunday School ideas](#).

4 Advent Lessons: Teaching through the Nativity

 ministry-to-children.com/advent-lessons-nativity

Reader Submitted

December 3,
2010

This idea is one to be spread over several weeks leading up to Christmas. Each part could be expanded into a full lesson or simplified to be done each Sunday in addition to a planned lesson. If you structure your children's programming with a main session followed by age-segmented small groups, then perhaps this could serve as the main session activity during the month of December.

Text: A variety of passages all taken from the accounts of Jesus' birth in Matthew and Luke

Lesson Objective: The children will learn the story of Jesus' birth chronologically through the reading of Scripture.

Target Age: Pre K-5th grade (can be modified for all ages)

- Pre K-K may need a separate coloring page for each part of the story.
- 4th and 5th may not want to do the coloring page. Instead they could leave for a longer break out small group session or create an alternative activity for them

Time Needed: 15-20 minutes for each part. The first and fourth week will be longer than the second and third.

Materials Needed:

- One nativity display with stable, Mary, Joseph, Jesus, an angel, shepherds, and three wise men
- Optional: Use our [nativity scene coloring page](#) & crayons.

Lesson 1: Introduction of Mary

Week One (1st Sunday in December)

1. "What is a nativity?" Take input from the children.
2. "A nativity is a display that shows the birth of Jesus. Sometimes it is called a crèche."



This series of four lessons uses each Character in the nativity to tell about Jesus.

3. "Who do you usually see in a nativity scene?" Take input from the children.
4. "We see Mary, Joseph, baby Jesus, shepherds, the wise men, angels, and sometimes some animals, too."
5. "This month as we are looking ahead to Christmas we will be using a nativity scene to learn about the story of Jesus' birth."
6. Set up the empty stable of your display. "This is a stable. Why would I be putting up a stable?" Take input from the children.
7. "Jesus was born in a stable because there was no room for him to be born in the inn. This stable is what we will use in the coming weeks to tell the story of Jesus. Make sure you bring your bible with you every week, so you can follow along with us as we read about Jesus' birth together."
8. "Today we are going to add our first person to the stable." Hold up Mary for the children to see.
9. "Who is this?" Mary. Choose a child to come up and place Mary in the stable.
10. "Open you bibles to Luke 1:26. We are going to read verses 26-38 together."
11. Read aloud the verses.
12. "What did God ask Mary to do?" Take input from the children.
13. "God chose Mary to carry and give birth to Jesus. He chose Mary to be Jesus' mother."
14. "Did Mary gladly agree? Did she have a good attitude?" Yes because she was a girl who loved God.
15. Pass out coloring pages and crayons. Have the children color just the stable and Mary for today.
16. When the children finish with their coloring, collect their pages so they can be used again in the coming weeks.

Lesson 2: Joseph and Jesus

Week Two (2nd Sunday in December)

1. Set up the stable and Mary as you review with the children what they learned from last week about these two parts of the nativity scene.
2. Hold up Joseph. "Who is this?" Joseph. Choose a child to come up to place Joseph in the nativity scene beside Mary.
3. "Open your bibles to Matthew 1:19. We are going to read verses 19-24 together."
4. Read aloud the verses.
5. "What did God ask Joseph to do?" Take Mary as his wife even though she was with child.
6. "Did Joseph do what God told him to do?" Yes, he took Mary as his wife.
7. Hold up baby Jesus. "Who is this?" Jesus! Choose a child to come up and place Jesus in the nativity scene.
8. "Now let's read Matthew 1:25 together." Read aloud chorally with all children reading out loud with you.

9. "Also turn to Luke 2:6-7." Read aloud these verses to the children.
10. "Who was born in the stable?" Jesus.
11. Pass out the coloring pages and crayons. Have the children color just Joseph and baby Jesus.
12. When the children finish with their coloring, collect their pages so they can be used again in the coming weeks.

Lesson 3: Shepherds and Angels

Week Three (3rd Sunday in December)

1. Set up the stable, Mary, Joseph and Jesus as you review with the children what they learned from the two previous weeks.
2. Hold up the shepherd. "Who is this?" A shepherd. Choose a child to come up to place the shepherd in the nativity scene.
3. "Why would there be a shepherd in the nativity scene?" Take input from the children.
4. "Let's see what the bible says in Luke 2:8-16." Read aloud the passage.
5. "So, why were there shepherds in the nativity scene?" Take input from the children.
6. "The angels had told them about Jesus being born and they wanted to see him with their own eyes."
7. "Thinking about the passage we just read, who else do you think belongs in the nativity scene?" An angel. Choose a child to come up and place the angel in the nativity scene.
8. "Angels are very important in the story of Jesus' birth because God used angels to bring the news that Jesus was coming. Mary was visited by an angel, Joseph was visited by an angel, the shepherds were visited by an angel, and then a whole host of angels appeared before the shepherds."
9. Pass out the coloring pages and crayons. Have the children color the shepherd and the angel.
10. When the children finish with their coloring, collect their pages so they can be used again next week.

Lesson 4: The Wise Men and Closing

Week Four (4th Sunday in December)

1. Set up the stable, Mary, Joseph, Jesus, the shepherd, and the angel as you review with the children what they learned from the three previous weeks.
2. "As we finished up our nativity lesson last week you may have thought we were still missing some important people. Who was missing?" The wise men.

3. "With Christmas happening yesterday, we did not finish the nativity scene in time for Christmas day. But, did you know the wise men were not there the night Jesus was born? Instead they came a while after when Mary, Joseph and Jesus were no longer in the stable at the manger."
4. "We usually include them in the nativity scene because they are an important part of the story of Jesus' birth." Choose three children to come up and place the three wise men in the nativity scene.
5. "Turn in your bibles to Matthew 2:1-12." Read aloud this passage.
6. "What led the wise men to Jesus?" A star.
7. "Why was King Herod upset about the wise men coming to see Jesus?" He did not like the idea of Jesus being the King of the Jews because it meant he (Herod) might no longer get to be king.
8. "What gifts did the wise men bring to Jesus?" Gold, Frankincense, and Myrrh.
9. Pass out the coloring pages and crayons. Have the children color the wise men and any remaining uncolored parts.
10. Using the finished nativity scene, briefly retell the story of Jesus' birth.
11. The children can then find a partner and retell the story of Jesus' birth to each other using their colored pictures.

Need More Ideas? Browse our [free advent coloring pages](#) or explore all our free [Christmas lesson plans](#).

[Total: 1 Average: 5/5]

Because of Jesus

We have a Savior!

Luke 2:11



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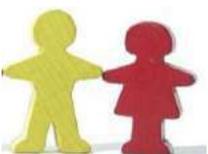
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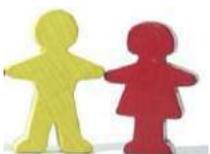
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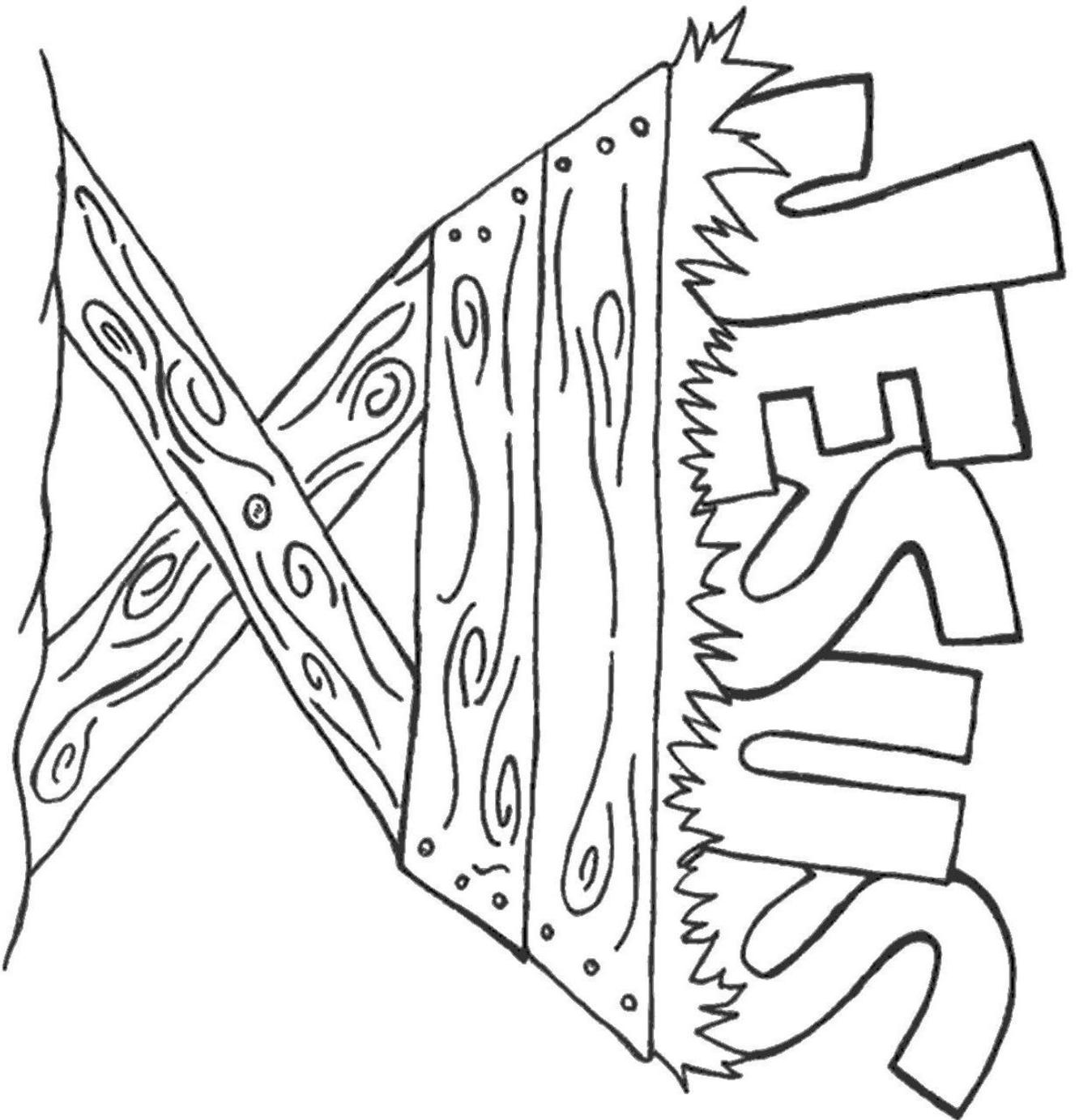
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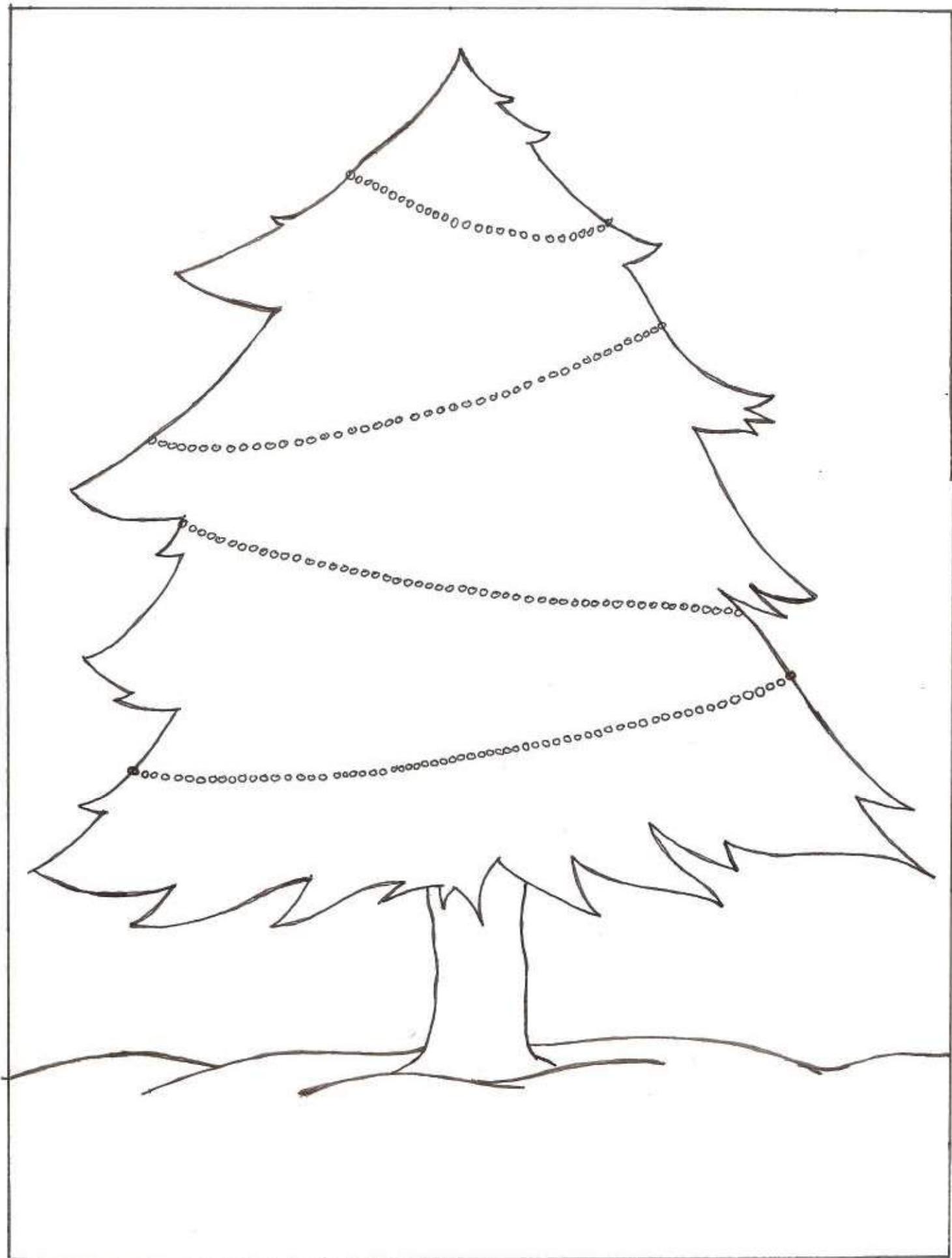
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Good Will Towards Men

