



# This is Jesus: The One We Are Looking For

**Bible Passage:** Luke 2:1-4; Isaiah 9:6

**Key Passage:** **23** “The virgin will conceive and give birth to a son, and they will call him Immanuel”(which means “God with us”). **Matthew 1:23**

**Big Picture Question:** What does Christmas teach us about who Jesus is? Jesus is God’s Son who was born, died, and rose again to give life to all who believe.

**Christ Connection:** Jesus was born to bring peace between us and God.

## 10 Minutes SOCIAL: SETTING THE TONE OF THE EXPERIENCE

### Christmas Charades

**What You Need:** Christmas Charades Cards (1set per group), paper, pencil

#### What You Do:

- Choose a player to start the game. The player selects a card at random (without looking).
- The player pantomimes the word or phrase on the card he’s chosen to the other players – no speaking allowed!
- Some common action clues used in Charades include:
  - A song: Pretend to sing
  - A movie: Pretend to crank an old fashioned movie camera
  - TV show: Use index fingers to draw a small rectangle
  - A book: Pretend to read a book
  - Number of words: Hold up the number of fingers in the phrase. When acting out the first word, hold up one finger, then two fingers before the second, etc)
  - Sounds like: Tug your ear
  - Short word: Words like a, the, of, and can be indicated by closing the thumb and index finger of one hand together.
- The other players must watch carefully and call out their guesses. The first person to guess the correct word or phrase takes the next turn.
- *Optional:* Allocate points to each person for each correct guess. The person with the most points at the end of the game wins.
- Alternatively, divide into teams before playing. Each player takes turns pantomiming for their teammates. The first team to guess the word is allocated a point. The team with the most points at the end of the game wins.

**What You Say** “How many did you get correct? Are you a Christmas expert? This month we are looking at all the details of the Christmas story from the Bible. Do you think you are an expert on that part of Christmas? Let’s see.”

## 10 Minutes Worship: CELEBRATING WHAT GOD IS DOING

### SONGS, OFFERING AND PRAYER

## 15 Minutes LARGE GROUP: COMMUNICATING GOD’S TRUTH IN ENGAGING WAYS

### TODAY’S PASSAGE

**6** For to us a child is born,  
to us a son is given,  
and the government will be on his shoulders.

And he will be called  
Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God,  
Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. **Isaiah 9:6**

**1** In those days Caesar Augustus issued a decree that a census should be taken of the entire Roman world. **2** (This was the first census that took place while Quirinius was governor of Syria.) **3** And everyone went to their own town to register. **4** So Joseph also went up from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to Bethlehem the town of David, because he belonged to the house and line of David.

**Luke 2:1-4**

### Context

People had been waiting a long time for Jesus. God hinted at His coming in the garden of Eden when He promised a seed to conquer the serpent. The prophets told of His coming hundreds of years before His birth. God was working His plan to bring people back to Himself.

Facts about Messiah coming from Luke 1:30-33

- He has unqualified greatness
- He is God’s Son
- Is given King David’s throne
- Fulfillment of promise to David
- He rules over Israel
- His kingdom lasts forever



In today's passage, we see important details that prove the Jesus is the one that we are looking for. It was prophesied that Jesus would be born in Bethlehem. The census brought them from Nazareth to the very place the Old Testament said the Messiah would be born. It was also predicted that the Savior would come from the family line of David, which is line that Joseph was from. God left no detail uncovered when it comes to Jesus' birth so that we would know that He, Jesus, is the one we are looking for.

### Today's Takeaways

- The Christmas story reminds us that God is in charge of all – look at all of the details that come together in the birth of Jesus!
- The Christmas story reminds us that God loves us – He sent His Son.
- **BL:** Jesus was born to bring peace between us and God.

Give kids a chance to believe in Jesus for the first time. Remind them that God loves them so much that He sent Jesus to earth to pay for their sins. Lead them to pray as you pray. Pray that believers will submit their lives to the Holy Spirit, follow Jesus, and tell others about Him.

### 25 Minutes SMALL GROUPS: CREATING A SAFE PLACE TO CONNECT

#### Discussion Questions:

- What is the best Christmas gift you have ever been given?
- What does God give to each of us at Christmas? (He gives His Son, Isaiah 9:6)
- Was Jesus' birth a normal birth? (No, He is God's Son)
- Why was Jesus born? (to rescue us from sin and to give life to all who believe.)
- How do we know that Jesus really is God's Son? (The Old Testament predicted His birth even down to the location-Bethlehem)

#### Activity: Nearly Impossible

**What You Need:** 16 pieces of square construction paper (8 of one color 8 of another color), coins (enough for each kid to have a few coins each)

#### What You Do:

- Lay the construction paper on the floor in a 4x4 grid. Mix up the colors.
- Give each kid a few coins and designate heads or tails.
- Guide kids to stand around the grid, approximately five feet away.
- Tell the kids that everyone will toss coins onto the paper.
- All the coins that land on yellow paper should be heads up, and all the coins that land on red paper should be tails up.
- Signal for kids to begin.
- When everyone has tossed his coins, pause the game and examine the coins. If any of the coins have not landed as instructed, instruct kids to pick up their coins and play again.
- Play several rounds as time allows.
- Kids may get frustrated if the coins do not all land correctly.

**What You Say** "Did that game seem impossible to you? The probability of all the coins landing correctly is very low, but it's not impossible. Today we heard about something God did that was impossible- except for Him. Nothing is impossible for God! All the Old Testament prophecies about Jesus' birth were coming true. **Jesus is the one we are looking for to bring peace between us and God.**

#### Activity: Memory Verse Activity

**What You Need:** Memory Verse Poster, Stocking, Memory Verse Activity Page (cut up and put in stocking)

#### What You Do:

- Put the words to the memory verse in the stocking.
- Pass the stocking around and get kid to pick one piece of paper out of the stocking.
- Then take turns putting the words in order.
- After all the words are in order on the table, get kids to say the verse with you out loud several times.

**What You Say** "Jesus came exactly the way God said he would come to do exactly what God had in mind, to rescue us and bring peace between man and God. This verse reminds us of the promise of how Jesus would be born as well as reminding us that Jesus was not just any man, He is God."

#### Pray and Dismiss:

**What You Need:** No supplies needed

#### What You Say:

"Lord God, thank you for sending Your Son as the Prince of Peace, Mighty God, Wonderful Counselor, and Everlasting Father. As we begin to celebrate Christmas, help us all to remember your promise and worship your Son. Amen."

### 5 Minutes HOME: PROMPTING ACTION BEYOND THE EXPERIENCE

As adults arrive to pick up, encourage your kids to tell their parents about the impossible task of flipping coins and then what seemed even more impossible, a baby born to a virgin to be the Savior of the World.