

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.

Leader Notes:

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 PASSAGES

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**

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.

Worship & Story Time

Gather children on a rug or in a specific area of the classroom to tell the story. Some kids (especially the younger ones) may wander. That's okay. They're still listening and learning!

Play the DVD of All Star Kids worship (choose 1 song for today)

What You Say: "Way to go! You are such amazing singers. Now let's sit down to learn from the Bible today."

What You Do: Introduce the story

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 focus on Him.

In the Bible, we see important details that prove that Jesus is the one that we are looking for. It was predicted 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 covered all the details when it comes to Jesus' birth so that we would know that He, Jesus, is the one we are looking for.

PLAY BIBLE STORY VIDEO

Check diapers and serve snack.

Activities

Depending on the size of your group, you may lead each activity two or three times. Not every child may want to participate in the activities. That's okay.

1. Scavenger Hunt

What You Need: Scavenger Hunt List, items around the room, basket to collect items in

What You Do:

- Have kids take turns finding one of the objects on the list.
- Encourage and help those who get distracted.
- When you have collected all the items, have the kids sit in a circle and talk about what they found and how they think it fits the category.

What You Say "Jesus was the promised Savior a long time before anyone knew to look for Him. Today we remembered that God promised Jesus would come all the way back in Genesis in the Garden of Eden. Then there were other specific things prophets told people to look for. When you were looking for items in our hunt today, did you know what to find? How? Just like the people of Israel knew to look for a Savior in Bethlehem who was to be born to King David's family, we know we can look and find the same Savior. **Jesus is the one we are looking for.**"

2. Practice signing the Memory Verse

What you need: Memory Verse Poster

What You Do:

- Show the poster to the kids
- As you say the words point to them on the poster
- Create simple hand motions to teach toddlers the memory verse. Sample hand motions include "**The virgin** (act like you are flipping your hair or

brushing long hair), **will conceive** (move hands in front of your belly like motioning a baby bump) **and give birth to a Son** (swaddle a baby and rock) **and they will call him Immanuel** (point to the ground, God with us)
Matthew 1:23

- Our memory verse tells us that Jesus was the promised Savior who came to live as a man on earth.

What You Say: Our Bible verse tells us that Jesus was the promised Savior who came to live as a man on earth. We needed Jesus to do this so that we can have peace with God. Jesus' birth, life, death and resurrection allowed us to have life with God forever when we believe.

Pray and Dismiss:

What You need: no supplies needed

What You Do:

- Pray- " God thank you for making a way for Jesus to be born exactly like you told people for hundreds of years. Help us all to see Jesus' birth as Good News that is for all people.

What You Say: Tell parents something that their child enjoyed doing or did well during the session. Send home the Scavenger Hunt list for families to do at home.