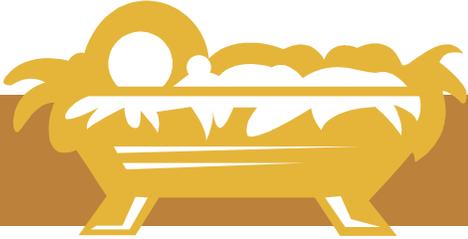




FAMILY RESOURCE PAGE

THE STORY



CHAPTER 22 THE BIRTH OF THE KING

DEVOTION 1 JESUS' MOTHER

Today's reading: Page 157 through break on page 160

This reading covers: Luke 1; John 1

Summary: Mary let God use her even though she didn't fully understand.

Do together: Supply construction paper, drawing paper, markers, crayons, scissors and glue. Have the children depict the angel Gabriel visiting Mary.

Think about: Discuss the role of angels in the announcement of Christ's birth. Have the children share their own ideas about these visions. How do they think they would have answered had they been Mary or Joseph?

Also read: Matthew 1:18-25; Luke 1:26-33

Prayer: How incredible to know that you used a very ordinary person to be the mother of Jesus. You also used your heavenly messengers to bring this good news. Help me to be ready to hear you when you speak, and to follow you when you show me what to do. I pray in Jesus' name. Amen.

DEVOTION 2 THE BIRTH OF JESUS

Today's reading: Break on page 160 through break on page 163

This reading covers: Matthew 1; Luke 2

Summary: Jesus' birth was a joyous event bringing hope to all people.

Do together: Have the children set up a nativity scene. You could use finger puppets or draw the characters on paper and cut them out. Be sure to include angels, shepherds, sheep, Mary, Joseph, Jesus, Wise Men and King Herod.

Think about: Discuss each character as it goes into the scene. Talk about their involvement in The Story. Have the children talk about what it might have been like if they had been there too. Repeat together the praises of the angels: "May glory be given to God in the highest heaven! And may peace be given to those he is pleased with on earth!"

Also read: Isaiah 9:2-7

Prayer: What a great day, the day Jesus was born. You brought hope and peace into the world. Thank you for this awesome gift. In Jesus' name, Amen.

DEVOTION 3

JESUS AS A BOY

Today's reading: Break on page 163 through end of chapter

This reading covers: Luke 2

Summary: Jesus shows children how to grow.

Do together: Get out the family photo album. Have fun looking at pictures of your family over the years. Notice how much everyone has grown.

Think about: The Bible tells us that Jesus grew up, too. Even though he was God, he still started as a baby, became a boy and grew into a man. Along the way, the Bible tells us he grew up well. At the very end of this chapter of The Story for Kids we read, "Jesus became wiser and strong. He also became more and more pleasing to God and to people." What would it take for you to grow up in each of these ways?

Wiser:

Stronger:

More pleasing to God:

More pleasing to people:

Also read: 1 John 2:5-6

Prayer: Thank you that you gave me an example of how to live when you sent your Son Jesus. He was a real person and someone I can relate to. Help me to grow like he grew. I pray in Jesus' name, Amen.

NEXT WEEK'S PARENT VOLUNTEERS:

Hank & Tina Rhoads
Yvonne & Andy Robertson

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- **Computerized Check in:** Thank you for your patience and grace as we implement our new check in system.
- **Kids Ministry Raffle:** The drawing will be held on Saturday, March 21 at the Missions Auction. You do not need to be present to win. Cost \$1 per ticket, \$10 for 12 tickets, or \$20 for 30 tickets.
 - Grand prize - All Kids Ministry events/ programs for free for a year with the exception of childcare and Hume Lake
 - Ditch the Parents - free for a year
 - Christmas Kick Off Event - lunch for 4 and 2 gingerbread houses
 - 2015 Sports Camp / Theme days - free for one family
 - \$50 voucher for an Kids Ministry program or event

MEMORY VERSES:

- **2 & 3 year olds**
John 3:16 | That whoever believes in Him shall not perish but have eternal life.
- **4 year olds & Kindergarten**
2 Corinthians 5:17 | Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; the old has gone, the new has come!
- **First & Second Grade**
Matthew 22:37-39 | Jesus replied: "Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.' This is the first and greatest commandment. And the second is like it: 'Love your neighbor as yourself.'"
- **Third & Fourth Grade**
Colossians 3:12 | Therefore, as God's chosen people, holy and dearly loved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience.
- **Fifth & Sixth Grade**
Philippians 4:12-13 | I know what is to be in need, and I know what it is to have plenty. I have learned the secret of being content in any and every situation, whether well fed or hungry, whether living in plenty or in want. I can do everything through (Christ) who gives me strength.