



FINDING A WAY TO BE HAPPY,
EVEN WHEN THINGS DON'T GO YOUR WAY



READ LUKE 2:11

DAY 1

SHEEP FACTS:

A female sheep is called an "ewe."

A male sheep is called a "ram" or "buck."

Sheep are social creatures, raised in herds or groups.

Sheep have a 300 degree line of sight, allowing them to see behind themselves without turning their heads!

It's crazy to think about a group of shepherds hearing the news of Jesus birth before anyone else. God sent an angel to those shepherds with a very special announcement – "Today a SAVIOR has been born to you. He is the Messiah, the Lord."

A Savior has been born to who? To you! Jesus didn't come just for the rich or famous people. God sent Jesus for everyone. We can have joy because God sent His Son to everyone!

Grab the nativity set from your living room. Write out today's verse and hang it near your nativity. If you don't have a nativity set, you can draw a simple picture of the manger with Mary and Joseph and write the verse on the top of the page.

Take a look at the shepherds in your nativity and thank God for sending Jesus for everyone!

READ JOHN 3:16

DAY 2

Grab a piece of paper and write out this verse in big block letters. What is the first thing that this verse tells you about God? God LOVED. Draw a big heart over the word 'Loved' on your piece of paper. What is the second thing this verse tells us about God? That God gave. What did God give? Yes! His one and only son, Jesus. Draw a big gift over the word gave. But we're not done yet! Once you understand that God loved you and that He gave His Son Jesus, there's something you and I need to do in response.

The next part of the verse says, "Anyone who _____?" Yep, believes! Anyone who chooses to put their trust in Jesus and what He did for us on the cross, can have a relationship with God, now and forever. That's the eternal life part. God loved. God gave. We believe. That gift, given to everyone on that first Christmas, is the reason we can have joy, no matter what!

Thank God for this WONDERFUL gift; the gift of Jesus!

READ 1 JOHN 5:11

DAY 3

When God sent Jesus, He made a way for us to know Him. Before Jesus came, people had to make sacrifices at the temple to be forgiven of their sin. But because God loved us, He put a plan in place to do away with that whole system.

Imagine making a list of every wrong thing you've ever done. Now imagine everyone all over the world making the same list. Now imagine every single person that has ever lived before you and every single person that isn't even alive yet one day making a list. Jesus' birth, life, death, and resurrection took care of every single thing on ALL of those lists. Forever.

That's why Christmas is such a big deal. It's the day God sent Jesus to forgive our sins and make a way for us to be a part of His family forever.

Ask your family to think of one NEW way to celebrate Jesus' birthday this week. You could bake a cake and sing "Happy Birthday." Or blow a party horn and yell "Happy Birthday, Jesus!"

After you celebrate, tell God you love Him and thank Him for sending Jesus!

READ 1 PETER 1:8-9

DAY 4

Have you celebrated Christmas yet? Is there a gift that you were super excited to receive? Draw it in the space to the right.

As cool as the gift you've drawn is, did you know that one day, it will wear out? One day it will break or get lost. But the gift that God gave to us on that first Christmas, will last forever. Because God sent Jesus to you and to me so that we could know Him, forever. And though we cannot see God face to face, we can love Him. We can believe in Him. We can have joy—a joy you can't even explain—because God sent Jesus so that we could know Him.

As you play with your new favorite gift this week, remember to thank God for sending the best gift ever, the gift of Jesus, on that very first Christmas!



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