



JESUS' HUMBLE BIRTH | December 20

Bible Story: Isaiah 9; Luke 2

Key Passage: Galatians 4:4-6

Big Picture : Jesus is here, exactly as God promised. So I can trust He will always be here.

Context:

From the moment sin entered the world, its consequences were obvious. God's people were separated from Him; they did not enjoy the intimate relationship with their Creator for which He had created them. People were affected by sickness and pain. Corruption spread quickly throughout the earth. The situation seemed hopeless, yet God did not leave His people without hope.

It was into this hopelessness that God spoke. Hundreds of messages came through the prophets concerning a coming Messiah- One who would rescue people from their sins. But when would this Promised One come? How would He come? Would the people recognize Him?

The prophet Isaiah- who lived hundreds of years before Jesus was born- spoke specifically of the Messiah's birth. Isaiah told King Ahaz what the Lord would do. "The virgin will conceive, have a son, and name him Immanuel " (Isa 7:14) He described the birth of a "Prince of Peace" a Son of David who will reign forever. (Isa 9:6-7) Isaiah said that He would be a King! (Isa 11:1-5)

Everything God said about Jesus' birth came true. Hundreds of years later, Jesus was born into the world. After Jesus was born, Mary laid Him in a manger. A king in a manger! It was so unlikely. But Jesus was no ordinary baby. He was God's Son, sent in the most humble of positions, not "to be served, but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many" Matt 20:28.

God's plan to rescue people from sin was not a secret plan. God gave His people hope: A Savior is coming. Though death came through Adam, life comes through Christ. (1 Cor 15:22) Through His death on the cross, Jesus finished the work for our salvation. In Him lies our hope of forgiveness and eternal life. Jesus, the Prince of Peace, reconciles to God everyone who trusts in Him.

Kinder- 5th grade activities

Social: Christmas Bingo

Sing a Christmas Song

Play the Bible Story Video

This is How Much God Loves You craft: give each kid a craft kit to complete and take home as a reminder of how much God loves us. "Even though Jesus is God's Son, He wasn't born in a fancy palace. The news of His Birth wasn't announced throughout the city with trumpets blaring and people celebrating. Jesus was born humbly. Mary laid Him where animals would have eaten their food. Angels announced Jesus' birth to shepherds, and they came to see the baby. Jesus' birth is good news because Jesus was born to bring peace between God and people."

Follow the bouncing Ball: Using the key passage, kids will take turns bouncing the ball on the most important words in these verses. God sent His son, to redeem, adoption, no longer slave, son, heir

Pray and Dismiss- Share the Key Passage with families and ask them to come for all of the Christmas season as we learn a new part of the story each week.

Coloring Page: This is Christmas and Activity page

Discussion Questions:

- Where did Mary put Baby Jesus? (in a manger)
- Who heard the news that a Savior was born? (the shepherds)
- Who told the shepherds this Good news? (an angel)
- Where did the shepherds go to find Baby Jesus? (Bethlehem)
- Why was Jesus born? Jesus was born to rescue us and give us the best gift ever, forgiveness of sins and life with God forever.
- What was unusual about Jesus' birth? Guide kids to talk about the humble conditions surrounding Jesus' birth. God's own Son wasn't born in a palace but came humbly. Jesus left His place with God in heaven to come to earth in the flesh.- 2 Cor 8:9
- What does it mean to have peace with God? Lead kids to realize that apart from Jesus, we are enemies of God who deserve death as punishment for our sins. Jesus brings us into a right relationship with God so we can have forgiveness and eternal life with God as His dearly loved children. Col 1:19-22
- What was special about Jesus' coming to earth? Prompt kids to consider that Jesus is God in the flesh. His name is Immanuel, God with us. Jesus showed us who God is and what God is like. John 1:14