

LESSON 4

JESUS' BIRTH

LESSON AT A GLANCE

WONDER TRUTH: God Invites People to Meet Jesus

SCRIPTURE: Luke 2

GOD'S BIG STORY: Jesus—the everlasting King—is born in Bethlehem! An angel announces His birth to nearby shepherds, who hurry to meet the baby and then tell everyone about the child.

Object Lesson: Nativity Exploration

Activity: Find the Baby

Worship

God's Big Story

Prayer and Blessing

Activity: Come and Meet Jesus

Wonder@Home™

Designed for families to engage in the wonder of God together at home. This resource includes a video, worship playlists, activities, and more!

Object Lesson: Nativity Exploration

SUPPLIES: toy nativity set

Greet the kids warmly and welcome them to church. Set out a toy nativity set.

Welcome! I am so glad you are here today. I have a special set of toys called a nativity. Would you like to come look at them? Show the kids the nativity set.

All these pieces help us tell a special story about when Jesus was born. You can pick these pieces up to look at and play with them.

Encourage kids to pick up the individual pieces of the set. As pieces are picked up, describe the piece and who or what it is. Tell a little about Jesus' birth without going into too much detail.

Today we are going to hear about when Jesus was born, and this nativity reminds us of that story!

Activity: Find the Baby

SUPPLIES: baby doll

Before the activity, hide the baby doll somewhere in the room.

We are going to learn about a special baby who was born long ago. I have hidden a baby doll somewhere in the room. Can you help me look for this baby doll?

Lead kids to look around the room for the hidden baby doll. If time allows, hide the doll and let kids look for the doll a few times before moving on. **Do you know who the special baby was?** Allow the kids to respond. **Yes, it's Jesus! We'll learn about His birth and who came to meet Him first!**

Our Wonder Truth today is GOD INVITES PEOPLE TO MEET JESUS.

Encourage the kids to do the following motions while you repeat the Wonder Truth. Older toddlers can say the words with you as they do the motions.

GOD INVITES—Point above.

PEOPLE—Point to others around the room.

TO MEET JESUS—Cradle arms like rocking a baby.

Worship

Wonder Ink RESOURCES: songs from the [Waiting for the King Early Childhood Spotify playlist](#)

Today we're learning God invites people to meet Jesus.

We'll learn in God's big story how God invited some shepherds to be the first ones to meet Jesus! Jesus came for everyone, and we are invited to meet Him too. Let's sing some songs about baby Jesus being born!

Play songs from the [Waiting for the King Early Childhood Spotify playlist](#) and encourage the kids to sing and dance with you.

God's Big Story

SUPPLIES: Bible, brown paper bag, scissors (prep only), large bag or bin, crown, baby doll, stuffed or toy sheep, flashlight

Wonder Ink RESOURCES: [God's Big Story Video](#)

Before the kids arrive, cut the brown bag in half so it will stand up. This will represent a manger. Put all the props, including the manger, in the large bag or bin.

Our God's big story today is a great story from the Bible about when Jesus was born. Encourage the kids to say, "Jesus." **Let's find out from the Bible about how Jesus was born and who came to meet Him!**

Show the kids the God's Big Story Video or read the story from the Bible or use the Script provided.

Gather kids together and place the bag of props in the middle of the group.

God sent an angel to tell Mary that she was going to have a baby. Mary's baby would be the forever King. Hold up the crown. **When the baby was still in Mary's belly, Mary and Joseph traveled to Bethlehem. While Mary and Joseph were in Bethlehem, it was time for the forever King to be born. He was Jesus! Jesus came to earth! When Mary had the baby, she wrapped baby Jesus in some pieces of cloth and put Him down in a manger. A manger is an animal's feeding bin.** Hold up the manger.

It was time to let people know that the forever King was here. God did something amazing. Pass the baby doll around the group. **That night, shepherds were taking care of their sheep in a field close by.** Hold up the stuffed or toy sheep.

God sent an angel to the shepherds. Remove the flashlight from the bag and shine it at the ceiling. **An angel told the shepherds that Jesus had just been born in Bethlehem. Suddenly there were more angels. They were praising God. The shepherds were excited. They hurried to Bethlehem to meet Jesus. After that, the shepherds told everyone about baby Jesus and what the angels had said. Jesus came for everyone, and now everyone is invited to come to Him. We are invited too! God invites people to meet Jesus!**

Prayer and Blessing

Let's talk to God.

Dear God, thank You so much for sending Jesus to be born. Thank You for inviting people—from the shepherds to us many years later—to meet Jesus. Please show us Jesus in our life each day. In Jesus' name, Amen.

Encourage the kids to hold their hands out in front of them, with palms up, as if their hands were open to receive something. Tell them to listen and receive the blessing as you speak it over them.

Blessing: **May you experience God's invitation to meet His Son, Jesus, the forever King, who is the good news for all people. May you meet Jesus in all that you do.**

Activity: Come and Meet Jesus

We're learning today that God invites us all to meet Jesus. Let's sing a song to help us remember that we are all invited to meet Jesus and worship Him!

Gather kids in a circle and sing the following rhyme to the tune of "Frère Jacques". It's important that every child is included in this activity. Be sure to repeat this song enough times that every child's name is used at least once. The third line can be sung by the child, and she can jump up after her name is said.

Where is "child's name"?

Where is "child's name"?

Here I am (*child jumps up and says this line!*)

There he/she is!

Come and meet Jesus!

Come and meet Jesus!

He's our King.

He's our King.