

# God is Lord and King

## (3 weeks)



### Outcomes

At the completion of this module students will understand that:

- God is in charge of the whole world
- Christmas is a special time when we remember when God sent Jesus into the world as part of his big plan for the world
- Baby Jesus was God's son. This means that although he was a human baby, he was also God.

### Related topics for Science, Social Studies and Health:

Any creation topic that shows God's power and greatness

### Link between "God is Lord and King" the topic:

Discuss with children that God is in control of the whole universe. That is, our world, the sun and the stars. He tells the sun the time to set. He makes the tides because the moon is under His control, (Ps 104:19). Because God is looking after our world, He looks after the people that He made. He sent His son Jesus into the world so that every person in the whole world could have the opportunity of knowing the true God.

### Values:

Faith; respect for truth

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## Week 1

### Preparation for the Christmas story

Prepare pictures of all the people/elements that make up the Christmas story:

- Mary
- Joseph
- Baby Jesus
- The Shepherds
- The angels
- The star
- The wise men

Use the figures to tell the Christmas story, and as you do over the next three weeks, gradually stick them one by one on to a big sheet of paper, building up a picture of the Christmas story.



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## Week 1

### Mary and Joseph

#### Introduction

Ask the children why they like Christmas.

Explain that there is a pretend part of Christmas and a real part of Christmas.

The pretend part of Christmas is about Santa and reindeers. The pretend part of Christmas goes away as children grow up, but the real part will never go away. The real part is that Jesus was born into the world. People like to celebrate Christmas with Christmas decorations and presents. Many people don't know why they celebrate Christmas, but we know the real reason.

Why do we celebrate Christmas?

- We celebrate the birth of Jesus.
- Jesus is the son of God.
- Christmas is the birthday of Jesus.

#### Bible lesson: Mary and Joseph

**Show a cut-out of Mary and stick it on the large sheet of paper to start the Christmas story picture. Ask the children what they know about her.**

Mary was Jesus mother. One day an angel came to Mary. The angel told her that she was going to have a baby. The baby was going to be God's son. She would become pregnant by the Holy Spirit.

The angel told Mary to name the baby Jesus. Mary knew that God was going to be the father of Jesus. God called Jesus His "one and only son". God loved us very much to send us His son.

**Show and add a picture of Joseph.**

**Ask the children what they know about Joseph.**

Although God was the real father of Jesus, Joseph was like a Dad to Jesus while he was growing up. Joseph was going to marry Mary. "Should I marry Mary?" he asked himself. She is going to have a baby."

An angel came to Joseph in a dream. The angel said, "Do not be afraid to take Mary as your wife. This baby will be from the Holy Spirit." So Joseph married Mary. Then they traveled to Bethlehem, which was a long way from their own town. Everyone in their region had to go there to register their names, so that the government could see how many people lived in the land. When they arrived, Joseph had to find a place for them to sleep. The only place he could find was a stable where the animals slept, at the back of an inn. That night, baby Jesus was born.

**Show and add a picture of Baby Jesus.**

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## Week 2

### The shepherds and the angels

#### **Bible lesson:**

**Select pictures of the shepherds and the angels to use in this lesson.**

#### **What is a shepherd? What do they do? What was it like to be a shepherd in Bible times?**

(Explain that shepherd moved round the countryside with their sheep and often stayed out at night looking after them. They would build a fire and keep it going all night to keep wolves and foxes away. They used a crook to bring back any sheep that wandered away.)

#### **What is an angel? What do angels do?**

(An angel is a messenger from God. Many people in the Bible had visits from angels. The angels told them about important things that were to happen.)

#### **Show and add a picture of the shepherds.**

**Ask the student what they know about the shepherds.**

Read from the Bible the shepherd's encounter with the angels and tell how they hurried to find baby Jesus. (Luke 2:8-20)

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## Week 3

### The wise men

Select the picture of the wise men and the star to use in this lesson.

Show and add a picture of the wise men and the star and ask the children what they know about these.

Explain that the wise men had been following the Christmas star that God had put in the sky at the time of Jesus' birth. The star stayed in the sky for many months after the birth. The wise men came from a country far away. They traveled from the East on camels. Their history books told them that the star was a sign that a new king had been born. By the time they reached Bethlehem a whole year had passed. Jesus was now about a year old. They went to King Herod to ask where they could find the new king. King Herod did not know of any new king but asked the wise men to come back and tell him if they found him. When they did find the house where Mary, Joseph and Jesus were living they brought precious gifts of gold, expensive perfume and spices. They then went home a different way because they knew that King Herod was not a good king and might harm baby Jesus.

After that, Joseph was told by God in a dream to take Mary and Jesus to Egypt, away from King Herod. They stayed there until King Herod died, and then made their home in Nazareth, where Joseph worked as a carpenter.

#### Christmas word search

X	S	Y	T	V	W	J	E	S	U	S
T	H	O	R	I	I	V	W	X	G	R
N	E	S	J	O	S	E	P	H	O	G
B	E	T	H	L	E	H	E	M	D	S
A	H	F	T	R	M	A	R	Y	D	A
B	E	T	H	L	E	H	E	M	D	S
Y	R	Z	M	A	N	G	E	R	V	T
K	D	H	E	R	O	D	M	L	H	P

Joseph  
Wise men  
Manger  
Bethlehem  
Shepherd  
East

Herod  
Baby  
Mary  
Jesus  
Gold  
Angel

