God is Lord and King
Year 2
Christmas

At Christmas we celebrate Jesus who God sent into the world to save us. Through His birth and death, we have eternal life and peace with God. He is our redeemer.

Bible references:

Bible stories and passages

Matthew 1:18-25; Luke 2:1-40 – The Birth of Jesus
Matthew 2:1-12 – The Visit of the Magi
Luke 2: 8-20 – The shepherds and the angels
Matthew 1 – Descendants of David through Jesus Christ
Numbers 24:17 – Star of Jacob, Star of David

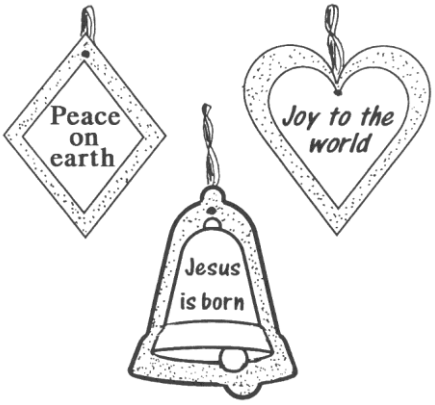
Memory verses

Luke 2:11 – For unto you is born this day, in the city of David, the Saviour, who is Christ the Lord.
Matthew 1:21 – "Mary will give birth to a son, and you are to give Him the name Jesus, because He will save His people from their sins."
Isaiah 9:6 – A child is born to us! A Son is given to us! And He will be our ruler. He will be called "Wonderful", "Counselor", Mighty God", Eternal Father", Prince of Peace".
Isaiah 26:3 You, Lord, give perfect peace to those who keep their purpose firm and put their trust in you.

Art Year 2

God is Lord and King

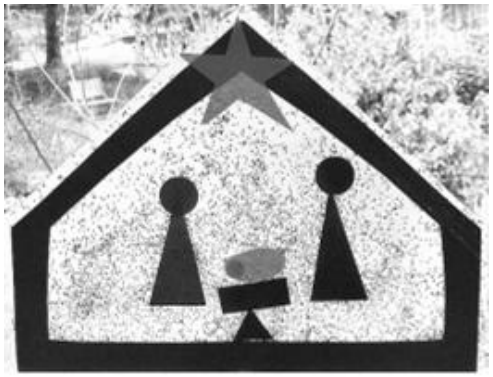
Topic: Christmas



Biblical connection: God sent His son, Jesus into the world to be Lord and King in the lives of people.
Bible art as a wall display: The Christmas story













Christmas 1 Give 10 completely different uses for a Christmas tree ball.	**Christmas 2** Write down 10 presents you know you will NEVER receive at Christmas.
Christmas 3 Name 5 things that are the same about a Christmas cake and a choir.	**Christmas 4** Add to this shape to make a manger scene. 
Christmas 5 Make a manger using: • boxes • construction paper • paint	**Christmas 5** The answer is **"King Jesus".** Make up 5 questions.

Christmas Activities from *Focus on the Family*

Character Cards

At Christmas time, you can create birthday cards for Jesus, and as our "gift" to Him. The family can try to show the fruit of the Spirit in their lives, (Galatians 5:22-23). For one child it might be patience, for another self-control. You can brainstorm situations and actions that strengthen our patience, such as waiting for a turn, or self-control in sharing belongings without becoming angry.

A Crib of Kindness

Make a manger out of a box. Each time your children does something to be praised, such as a good deed, obeying, or praying for others, he or she can put a soft piece of cotton in the manger. Talk about how Jesus wants us to do kind things for others because doing so helps soften our hearts to love others.

Names of Jesus

Cut out stars from card and write "Jesus is …" on each one. Then write words that describe Jesus, such as "Savior," "Emmanuel" and "Prince of Peace." For family devotions that night, talk about the different names of Jesus. Creating these stars to decorate the kitchen is a great way to engage children in remembering the character of Jesus.

The Gift of Scripture

Ask your immediate and extended family to select a Scripture that meant something to them during the course of the year. On Christmas morning, take turns reading the chosen verses or passages and sharing why it was important to you.

Finding Jesus

"Find the baby Jesus" is a game that can be played. Set up a Nativity scene in the kitchen on Dec. 1. Then hide a figure of baby Jesus far from the kitchen. The children have to find baby Jesus. As Christmas approaches, the figure can be hidden in progressively closer locations.

Ideas for Serving Others This Christmas Season

We're called to humbly serve other people — not only the poor and sick, but our families, friends and neighbors, too. Ask your children to come up with ideas on how to serve others – family, close friends, neighbours and the community. Put the ideas on slips of paper and put them into a jar, then pull out an idea each day.

Christmas Play: Jesus the healer

This play is mimed. The only spoken voice is the narrator.

Three songs:

1. While Shepherds watched their flocks
2. We Three Kings
3. O Come all ye Faithful

OPENING SCENE:

Joseph stands with Mary by his side. She is kneeling and holding baby Jesus.

Shepherds are at the side of the stage. The angel appears at the appropriate time in the following narration:

Narrator: "Joseph and Mary travelled from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to Bethlehem the town of David, to register their names on the census, as required by the government. While they were there, the time came for Mary's the baby to be born, and she gave birth to her firstborn, a son. She wrapped him in cloths and placed him in a manger, because there was no guest room available for them.

And there were shepherds living out in the fields nearby, keeping watch over their flocks at night. An angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid. I bring you good news that will cause great joy for all the people. Today in the town of David a Saviour has been born to you; he is the Messiah, the Lord. This will be a sign to you: You will find a baby wrapped in cloths and lying in a manger."

Suddenly a great company of the heavenly host appeared with the angel, praising God and saying, "Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace to those on whom his favour rests."

When the angel had left, the shepherds immediately went to the town to find the baby."

Song: While shepherds watched their flocks by night

During this song, the shepherds make their way towards Mary and Joseph. They kneel down and admire baby Jesus. One brings a lamb and places it down. They then take their place near Joseph and Mary as part of a nativity set, in a frozen position.

Narrator: Now after Jesus was born in Bethlehem, in the days of Herod the king, behold, wise men from the East came to Jerusalem, saying, "Where is He who has been born King of the Jews? For we have seen His star in the East and have come to worship Him."

When Herod the king heard this, he was troubled. He had heard of the Scriptures foretelling the birth of a ruler in the town of Bethlehem. He said to the wise men:

"Go and search carefully for the young Child, and when you have found Him, bring back word to me, that I may come and worship Him also."

After talking to Herod, they departed; and behold, the star which they had seen in the East went before them, till it came and stood over where the young Child was. When they saw the star, they rejoiced with exceedingly great joy. And when they had come into the house, they saw the young Child with Mary His mother, and fell down and worshiped Him, and presented gifts to Him: gold, frankincense, and myrrh.

Then, being warned by God in a dream that they should not return to Herod, they departed for their own country another way."

Song: We Three Kings

Wise men come and present gifts. At end of song, they exit stage. Then Mary, Joseph and shepherds exit.

SCENE 2

Nativity set is now off stage. Jesus as a man is centre stage.

Narrator: And Jesus grew in wisdom and stature, and in favour with God and man. And large crowds came to Him, bringing with them those who were lame, crippled, blind, mute, and many others, and they laid them down at His feet; and He healed them.

Song: O Come All Ye Faithful

While the song is being sung, one by one, people come to Jesus, who heals them. First, a blind man feeling his way with a stick; then someone who is deaf; then a lame person with a walking stick; then a person who is crying with sadness. Once Jesus heals them, one by one, they walk off stage.

FINALE

While "O Come Let us Adore Him" is being sung, all the people who are healed come back on stage and praise God. Fade music.

THE END

Bible lesson week 3: Jesus goes back to Heaven

While Jesus was living here on earth, He told his disciples that He would have to suffer and die. Then one evening He explained to these friends that He would only be with them a little while longer.

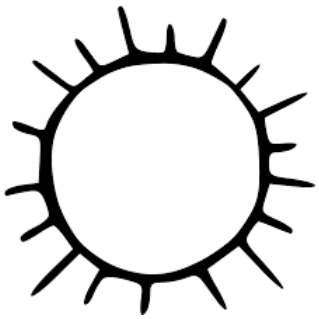
The disciples were upset when they heard this, so Jesus comforted then by saying, “Don’t let your hearts be troubled. In my Father’s house there are many rooms. I am going there to prepare a place for you. I will come back and take you to be with me.”

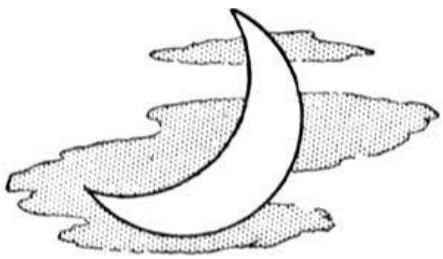
Jesus was talking about going the heaven, but his disciples didn’t understand this at the time. Later on, after Jesus died and came to life again, He spent time with his disciples for 40 days. Then one day after He had talked to them, took them to the top of a hill, where Jesus began to rise up from the earth. The disciples watched in amazement as Jesus continued to go up into the sky, and finally He disappeared in the clouds.

As the disciples stood gazing up into the sky and feeling very alone, two angels suddenly appeared beside them. The angels asked, “Why are you standing looking up into the sky?” This same Jesus who has been taken from you into heaven will come back in the same way as you have seen Him go into heaven.” Then the disciples remembered the promise that Jesus had given them- that He was going to the special heavenly home He had prepared for them, and that He has also prepared for you and me.

What will heaven be like?

Firstly, there are some things that won’t be in heaven. The Bible says that there will be no sun or moon in heaven. This is because the whole of heaven will be lit up by the glory that shines from God himself.





No one knows what God the Father looks like, but we do know that He is seated on the throne in the heavenly city. He will rule as king forever and ever.

But we don't have to wait to get to heaven for God to be the King of our life. If we let God be in charge of our life here on earth then He is our King and we are part of His Kingdom.

The Bible also says that there will be no night in heaven. Just imagine days that never end. There will be no need for churches in heaven because God our Heavenly Father will teach us, and we can talk to Jesus and ask him anything we want to. There will be angels in heaven. Although people on this earth rarely see angels, every Christian has an angel to watch over them while we are here on earth.

There won't be any medicine in heaven because there is no sickness or pain there. God will change the body we have on earth into a brand-new body that cannot catch disease or sickness.

There won't be any cemeteries or gravestones in heaven because there will be no death. When we get to heaven we will live forever. Living forever is called 'eternal life'. This is not something our human minds can understand. We cannot imagine what that would be like. Because God has promised eternal life to all those who believe in Him, we never need to be afraid of dying. If we are part of God's kingdom, then when He decides it is time for us to finish our life on earth, we will go straight to be with Him. It will just like going to sleep. We will just close our eyes to this world and open then to be with Jesus.

Someone has wondered, "What will we do in heaven if we are going to be there forever? We will never be bored. God will have wonderful things for you to do in heaven and it is such a beautiful place that you will never get tired of being there.

The Bible tells us that in heaven there is a very special tree called the Tree of Life. The leaves of this tree are for the healing of the nations. There are many wars between countries here on earth. But people in heaven will not remember the terrible things that happened in war. A special thing about the Tree of Life is that it bears twelve crops of fruit every year, one for every month.

What does heaven look like?

The Bible calls heaven the Holy City and the New Jerusalem. Its twelve gates are made of pearl, and the foundations of the city are made of all kinds of precious jewels. Just think of how these jewels sparkle as they are lit up by the glory of God that shines in the heavenly city!

Even the streets of heaven are made of bright shining gold. Down the middle of the main street flows the River of Life. Everyone can drink from the River of Life.

There will be no sadness and no crying in heaven. Nothing there would ever make us want to cry or be upset. There will also be no sin or wrong doing. God is holy and cannot allow any sin in His presence. There won't be any selfishness, lying or disobedience. When you get to heaven you will be changed by God and you won't even want to do anything that is wrong.

The Bible says that there will be special rewards in heaven. One is the Crown of Life which is given to those who have not given up while on earth. As a Christian here on earth there will be hard times, but God asks us to never give up our faith in Him.

Lastly, one of the most important things that will be in heaven is the Book of Life. This is not a Bible but a very special book, called the 'Lamb's book of Life'. The Lamb is Jesus and, in His book, there are all the names of those who are going to be in heaven. The Bible says that if our name is not in the Lamb's book of Life then we cannot be in heaven. How do we get our name in the book? If we believe that Jesus died to take the punishment for our sin, and if we ask God to forgive us for all the wrong things we have done, and ask Jesus to be in charge of our life, then we are a child of God.

