

# MARY, JOSEPH AND THE SHEPHERDS

Luke 2:1-20



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Message	God sent the Saviour for humankind.
Learning Objectives	The children will learn: ■ Jesus Christ was born on earth and He is the Son of God.
Bible Text	Luke 2:1–20

## Mary, Joseph and the Shepherds



Caesar Augustus issued a decree. A census was to take place and everyone in the country was to be registered. Everyone had to go to the town where their family originally came from to record and register their names. Mary, who was almost ready to deliver her child, travelled to Bethlehem with Joseph, the town where he had been born.

When Mary and Joseph reached Bethlehem, there was no room for them in the inn so they stayed in the stable.

When Jesus was born, Mary wrapped Him in swaddling clothes and laid Him in a manger.

That night there were shepherds in the field keeping watch over their flocks.

Suddenly it became as light as day. An angel came to the shepherds. They were very frightened. The angel said to them, "Do not be afraid.

Today in Bethlehem a Saviour has been born. You will find the newborn child wrapped in swaddling clothes and lying in a manger."

Suddenly, a heavenly host appeared with the angel and sang, praising God, "Glory to God in the highest and on earth peace, goodwill toward men!" The angels returned to heaven.

The shepherds decided to go to Bethlehem to see what had happened.

The shepherds said to each other, "Let us find this Saviour."

They went into the town and found Mary and Joseph, and their child in a manger.

The shepherds told everyone what the angel had said to them about the child. Mary listened to what they had to say and pondered over these words. The shepherds returned to their flocks.

They praised God and thanked Him for everything they had heard and seen.

# Mary, Joseph and the Shepherds

## Suggestions for the Teacher

### Lead-In

Choose some Christmas songs that are familiar to the children and sing the songs with them.  
Show the picture to the children. Discuss with them what they see. Ask what she/he may feel....  
Let some of the children play the story in a role-play. Instruct them before.  
Provide disguise / fancy dress, a shepherd's crook, some play the sheep....

### Lesson Instructions

Begin telling the story...

Discuss with the children...

- What happens unto the shepherds in the field?  
(An angel appears and announces the birth of the Saviour.  
Countless angels glorify God singing a beautiful hymn.)
- What are the shepherds doing?  
(They go to Bethlehem and find Jesus laying in a manger.  
After this experience, they tell everybody all things concerning this Child.)

Have the children repeat...

- Jesus Christ was born on earth and He is the Son of God.

Real-Life Application (explain the following)

- The shepherds heard and believed the good tidings that Jesus was born.
- Today we hear and believe the good tidings that Jesus will come soon.

<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Repeat the Message</b> <b>God sent the Saviour for humankind.</b></p>
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