



SUNDAY, DECEMBER 3RD – PART 1 OF 3

Series Title: A Savior Is Born

Lesson Title: The Christmas Story: Let's Start at the Beginning

Key Scriptures: Matthew 1:18-25, Matthew 2:1-11, Luke 2:1-20

Homework Instructions: This series will cover three weeks of lessons for the month of December (December 3rd, 10th and 17th) and includes homework for each week.

You should complete the homework assignment for each week before class. However, you are welcome to go ahead and complete all homework assignments in advance if you would like to.

Lesson Overview

In this lesson, we'll learn about the events that lead up to the birth of Jesus. If you have not done so already, read the Key Scriptures so that you can have the context and perspective to best understand the Sunday School Lesson.

This week we will cover:

- 1. What Does Christmas Mean To You?**
- 2. Why We Needed A Savior**
- 3. The Promise of the Saving King**

What Does Christmas Mean To You?

What do you think about when you think about Christmas? Would it be families gathering together? Gifts? Food? Decorations? Does your family have Christmas traditions? Well, all those things are nice, but let's talk

about what Christmas is really all about. **The reason we have Christmas is to celebrate Jesus' birthday!**

The Christmas Story: Let's Start At The Beginning

1. Why We Needed A Savior

Many years had passed since the prophets had foretold that the Savior of the world would come. Men had abandoned God's ways. And the world was growing more and more evil. The time had come for God to send His son to earth to rescue us from sin and bondage.

2. The Promise Of The Saving King

Years ago in the days when Herod was King of Judea, God sent the angel Gabriel to Nazareth, a town in Galilee, to a virgin named Mary. Gabriel gave Mary a message from God that a child would be born unto her. This message was surprising to Mary but she was attentive and obedient. Angel Gabriel informed Mary that she was to name the child Jesus for He would save the people from their sins. And Mary said, "Behold the handmaid of the Lord; be it unto me according to thy word." And the angel departed from her.

Mary who was engaged to her soon-to-be husband Joseph was surprised and confused about how a child of God would be born to her. When she told Joseph, he did not believe Mary's story. He was confused and hurt. "How can this be true?" Joseph was also concerned that Mary was going to have a baby before their marriage had taken place.

At night Joseph thought to divorce Mary quietly. But then an angel appeared to Joseph in a dream and assured him that the child in Mary's womb was the Son of God who would save the people from their sin. The angel told Joseph to take Mary as his wife and name the child Jesus. When Joseph awoke from his dream, he did all the angel commanded.

SUNDAY SCHOOL HOMEWORK ASSIGNMENT
SUNDAY, DECEMBER 3rd – PART 1 OF 3
The Christmas Story: Let's Start At The Beginning

Read the lesson and answer the following questions.

1. List one reason that we needed a Savior.

2. Who gave Mary the message that she would be having a child?

3. Why was Mary told to name the baby Jesus?

4. What did Joseph want to do when he first found out that Mary was pregnant?

5. What happened when Joseph heard from the angel concerning Mary's pregnancy?
