



Jesus Is Born

Luke 1:26-38; 2:1-20

First- and second-graders love birthday parties. They especially enjoy watching the birthday child open the presents they brought. In order to direct your kids' minds away from what they might receive or have received for Christmas, challenge them to think of what they can give to Jesus for his birthday. Use this lesson to help kids enjoy giving to Jesus as much as they enjoy opening their own gifts.

LESSON	WHAT CHILDREN DO	SUPPLIES	EASY PREP
1 Getting Started	Best Presents <i>(about 15 min.)</i> Draw pictures of favorite gifts.	My Bible Fun, CD player, crayons, copies of the lyrics page (at the end of the lesson) Teacher Pack: CD	Tear out the Lesson 3 pages from each My Bible Fun student book.
2 Bible Exploration	The Christmas Message <i>(about 20 min.)</i> Hear about the birth of Jesus and talk about God's greatest gift.	Bible, CD player, My Bible Fun, crayons Teacher Pack: CD, Bible Timeline 	

Bold text within the lesson is spoken text.



► Bible Point

Jesus was born for us.

Key Verse


"Do not be afraid. I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people. Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; he is Christ the Lord" (Luke 2:10-11).

Weaving Faith Into Life

Kids will celebrate Jesus and tell others about his great love.





LESSON	WHAT CHILDREN DO	SUPPLIES	EASY PREP
<p>3</p> <p>Weaving Faith Into Life</p>	<p>Whisper Good News <i>(about 10 min.)</i> Play a whispering game, and learn the Key Verse.</p>	<p>Bibles, CD player Teacher Pack: CD</p>	
	<p>Joyful News <i>(about 15 min.)</i> Praise God for giving us Jesus.</p>	<p>CD player, adhesive bows, copies of the lyrics page (at the end of the lesson), tape Teacher Pack: CD, "Christmas Tree" poster</p> 	
<p>4</p> <p>Lasting Impressions</p>	<p>Daily Challenges <i>(about 5 min.)</i> Choose a Daily Challenge to apply God's Word.</p>	<p>My Bible Fun</p>	
	<p>Weaving Faith at Home <i>(about 2 min.)</i> Talk about how to share what they learned with their families.</p>		

Bold text within the lesson is spoken text.





Best Presents Supplies

My Bible Fun
CD player
crayons
copies of the lyrics
page (at the end of the
lesson)

Teacher Pack

CD: "Glory to God"
(Luke 2:11) (track 5)

Best Presents Easy Prep

Tear out the Lesson 3
pages from each My
Bible Fun student book.

1

GETTING STARTED

Best Presents

What You'll Do ■■■■■■

Welcome kids warmly as they arrive, and ask them how their week went.

Gather everyone together. Give each child a My Bible Fun page, and distribute crayons.

Say: **In Box 1, draw a picture of the best present you've ever gotten.** Allow time.

Then have each child turn and tell a friend about the picture he or she drew. Invite a few willing children to share with the group, as well.

Say: **Now, in Box 2, draw a picture of a present you'd really, really like to get.** Allow time. Then have each child turn and tell a friend about the picture he or she drew. Invite a few willing children to share with the group, as well.

Say: **Christmastime makes us think about presents. And most people give presents at Christmas to show their love for one another. A very long time ago, right before the first Christmas, God gave the world the best Christmas present of all. He gave us Jesus.**

Say: **Let's sing a song, thanking God for giving us the best Christmas present of all.**

Give kids the lyrics pages. Play "Glory to God" (Luke 2:11) (track 5 on the CD). Encourage kids to sing along to the song.



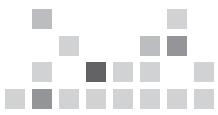
**The Savior—
Yes, the Messiah—
The Lord has been born today.
The Savior—
Yes, the Messiah—
The Lord has been born today in Bethlehem.**

**And the angels sing:
Glory to God!
Glory to God!
Glory to God in the highest!
Glory to God! Glory to God!
Glory to God in the highest!
In the highest!**

(Repeat from the beginning.)

"Glory to God" (Luke 2:11) by Jay Stocker. © 2006 Group Publishing, Inc. All rights reserved.





Talk With Kids

Lead children in this discussion.

Ask:

- How do you decide if a present is a *really* good present?
- What makes Jesus a really good present?
- What can you do to show God you love his present of Jesus?

Say: ► **JESUS WAS BORN FOR US.** Jesus’ birth was the best present God could ever give the world! The people had been waiting a long time for God to send a Savior. God sent Jesus into the world to save us—that’s why Jesus is called our Savior. Today we’ll hear all about how Jesus came into the world.



2 BIBLE EXPLORATION

The Christmas Message

What You’ll Do

Open your Bible to Luke 1:26-38, and show children the passage. Say: **The Bible tells us ► JESUS WAS BORN FOR US. Actually, he was born to save the whole world, and he really is the best Christmas gift we could ever receive. Let’s hear about Jesus’ birth from an angel, Gabriel.**

Play Part 1 of “Christmas” (track 6 on the CD). Pause the CD when the narrator instructs you to.

Ask:

- **Tell about a time you were nervous and excited about something that was going to happen.** Allow time.

Say: **Thanks for sharing—Mary probably felt the same things you feel in times like that. Remember, Mary was an ordinary person, like you and me.**

Say: **When it was almost time for Jesus to be born, Mary and her husband, Joseph, had to make a long trip. The ruler of the country said that all the people had to go back to their hometowns so they could be counted. Let’s pretend to travel with them as we listen to what happened.**

Play Part 2 of the CD track, leading the children in following the narrator’s instructions. Pause the CD when the narrator tells you to. Then have children sit.

Say: **God wanted Jesus to be a present for everyone in the world, no matter who they were. The first people God told that Jesus had been born were some nearby shepherds. Being a shepherd in those days wasn’t a very good job, at least**

The Christmas Message Supplies

- Bible
CD player
My Bible Fun
crayons
Teacher Pack
CD: “Christmas”
(track 6)
Bible Timeline





according to most people. Let's hear what happened with the shepherds. Have kids lie on the floor, as if in a field at night watching sheep. Tell them that when you turn the lights on, they'll stand up.

Turn off the lights as you play Part 3 of the CD track. Turn the lights back on when the angel appears to the shepherds, and have kids stand. Pause the CD when the narrator tells you to.

Have kids turn to their My Bible Fun pages. Set out crayons. Say: **In Box 3, draw a picture of what the shepherds saw. Use your imagination to think about what the angels looked like.** Allow time. Then invite kids to share with the group what they drew.

Say: **Let's find out what the shepherds did. Whenever you hear the word *hurry*, run in place.** Play Part 4 of the CD track. Stop the CD when you're instructed to.

Say: **The shepherds couldn't wait to tell the news that Jesus had been born! It was such good news that they wanted all the people to know about Jesus. Remember what the angel said? The good news of Jesus is for all people, including us!**

Direct kids to Box 4 on their My Bible Fun pages. Say: **Draw a picture of everyone in the stable.** Allow time. Then invite kids to share with the group what they drew.

Talk With Kids ■■■■

Lead children in this discussion.

Ask:

- Why is Jesus' birth special to you?
- What do you want to tell others about Jesus' birth?

Say: **We celebrate Christmas because it's Jesus' birthday and ► JESUS WAS BORN FOR US! God gave us Jesus because he loves us. Jesus is the best present we could ever get. If we believe in Jesus, we can live forever with God in heaven. What wonderful news! Let's play a game to remind us of God's greatest gift.**

3 WEAVING FAITH
INTO LIFE

Whisper Good News

What You'll Do ■■■■■■

Help kids find Luke 2:10-11 in their Bibles. Say: **Our Key Verse today, Luke 2:10-11, reminds us that ► JESUS WAS BORN FOR US! This is what it says: "Do not be afraid. I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people. Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; he is Christ the Lord" (Luke 2:10-11).**

**Whisper Good News
Supplies**

- Bibles
- CD Player
- Teacher Pack**
- CD: "Background Christmas music" (track 18)





Say: **Jesus' birth was great news! Let's say our Key Verse together.** Lead kids in a simplified version of the Key Verse: **I bring great news; Jesus is born!** Have kids repeat the simplified Key Verse with you several times.

Say: **Let's play a game now that will help us remember this great news.**

Have kids sit in a circle. Then say: **I'll whisper some "good news" in my friend's ear.** Point to the child next to you. **Then he [or she] will whisper the same news into the next person's ear.** Point to the next child over. **We'll continue doing that until the news is passed to everyone. And the last person to hear the news will say it aloud to the rest of us.** Check for understanding. Play "Background Christmas Music" (track 18 on the CD) to add to the challenge and the fun.

Say: **Let's see if our good news makes it all the way around the circle without getting mixed up!** Begin the game by whispering the following into a child's ear: **God loves us so much that he sent Jesus to save us from our sins. What do you think of that?** Have each child whisper the same thing to the next person until everyone has heard the good news. Then have the last child say aloud what he or she heard.

Say: **Whether or not you got to hear our good news correctly, God loves you and he sent his Son, Jesus, just for you! It's important to tell others this good news, too.**

Talk With Kids ■■■■

Lead children in this discussion.

Ask:

- What did you think when you heard the message the last person received?
- Why do you think it's important to share messages of good news?
- What will you do to tell the good news about Jesus this week?

Say: **We have great news about Jesus that not everyone knows about. Jesus is the best friend we could ever have, and he wants everyone to be his friend. ► JESUS WAS BORN FOR US and for everyone who believes in him. He loves us and died for our sins. That's great news that we'll want to share!**

Joyful News

■ **Tip** If you used the "Christmas Tree" poster for the "Clean for Jesus" activity in Lesson 1 or the "Spreading the Light" activity in Lesson 2, you can leave the decorations on it, as this activity simply decorates the tree even more.

What You'll Do ■■■■

Hang the "Christmas Tree" poster on the wall at kids' eye level.

Say: **We celebrate Christmas because of the same great news the angel told the shepherds: ► JESUS WAS BORN FOR US! After the shepherds went to see**



Joyful News Supplies

-
- CD player
 - adhesive bows
 - copies of the lyrics page (at the end of the lesson)
 - tape
 - Teacher Pack**
 - CD: "Joy to the World" (track 7), "Jesus, Jesus" (track 8)
 - "Christmas Tree" poster





baby Jesus, they were filled with happiness. The Bible says they went back home praising and glorifying God. We can celebrate Jesus, too!

Give each child an adhesive bow. Say: **Jesus is a gift—the best gift of all. Think of something about Jesus that you want to celebrate. When you’re ready, take the paper off the sticky part and come up to the tree. Stick your bow on the tree and, if you’d like, say “I celebrate Jesus because…” and tell the thing you’re thankful for.**

When kids are finished putting their bows on the tree and sharing, say: **Let’s sing some songs to celebrate Jesus.** Distribute copies of the lyrics. Play “Joy to the World” (track 7 on the CD) and lead children in celebrating Jesus’ birth through song.

 **Joy to the world!**

**Joy to the world!
Joy to the world!
Joy to the world!**

**Joy to the world!
The Lord is come!
Let earth receive her King!
Let every heart prepare him room,
And heaven and nature sing,
And heaven and nature sing,
And heaven, and heaven, and nature sing.**

(Repeat all. Then repeat intro.)

“Joy to the World” by George F. Handel.

Then play “Jesus, Jesus” (track 8 on the CD) and clap along with the kids as you sing and celebrate Jesus’ birth.

 **Jesus came and (clap)**

**Lived among us.
Now we can live for him.
Jesus came and (clap)
Walked among us.
Now we can walk with him.
Then he gave his life,
The greatest sacrifice!**

(Chorus)

**Jesus, Jesus, (clap)
Precious Jesus,
He died and rose again!
Jesus, Jesus, (clap)
Precious Jesus,
He gave his life for you and me!**



Jesus came and *(clap)*
 Lived among us.
 Now we can live for him.
 Jesus came and *(clap)*
 Walked among us.
 Now we can walk with him.
 Then he gave his life,
 The greatest sacrifice!

(Repeat chorus 2x.)

He gave his life for you and me!
 He gave his life for you and me!
 He gave his life for you and me!

“Jesus, Jesus” by Jay Stocker. © 2005 Group Publishing, Inc. All rights reserved.

Talk With Kids ■■■■

Lead children in this discussion.

Ask:

- What was it like for you to celebrate Jesus in this way?
- What are some other ways you celebrate Jesus’ birth?
- What new thing will you do this week to celebrate that Jesus was born for you?

Say: Celebrations are fun—especially when there’s something really great to celebrate. The fact that ► JESUS WAS BORN FOR US is definitely something worth celebrating. As we celebrate Christmas this year, let’s remember that Jesus is the best gift of all!

4 LASTING IMPRESSIONS

Daily Challenges

What You’ll Do

Say: Let’s think about the fact that ► JESUS WAS BORN FOR US.

Have kids find this week’s Daily Challenges on their My Bible Fun pages and choose one to do this week. They can choose one or more of these three options:

- Tell someone about Jesus’ love for him or her—and how Jesus was born for us.



Daily Challenges
Supplies

My Bible Fun





- **Wrap a box with Christmas paper, and write “Jesus was born for me” on a gift tag. Keep the box in your room as a reminder that we celebrate Jesus at Christmas.**
- **Celebrate Jesus this week by singing a song of praise to him.**

Make sure you choose a Daily Challenge as well, and tell kids what you chose. Kids will be more inclined to follow through on their commitments when they see you doing the same.

Talk With Kids ■■■■

Leads kids in this discussion.

Ask:

- **What’s a practical way you’re going to do your Daily Challenge? Include a time, a place, and other ideas.**

Say: ► **JESUS WAS BORN FOR US. During this time of Christmas and all the gifts and celebration, let’s remember to celebrate Jesus’ birth by following through on our Daily Challenges.**

Weaving Faith at Home

Encourage kids to talk with their parents about the Daily Challenges they chose and what they learned about Jesus’ birth. Kids can also do the activities in the “HomeConnect” section of their My Bible Fun pages with their families.

Talk to your Director about emailing the FREE FamilyConnect to all your church’s families. Available at group.com/digital.

Take a couple of minutes to pray with your kids, thanking God for sending Jesus to earth for us. As you pray, give children each an opportunity to thank God for a way they’ve seen Jesus in their lives.



Lyrics ■■■■

Glory to God (Luke 2:11)

The Savior—
Yes, the Messiah—
The Lord has been born today.
The Savior—
Yes, the Messiah—
The Lord has been born today in Bethlehem.

And the angels sing:
Glory to God!
Glory to God!
Glory to God in the highest!
Glory to God! Glory to God!
Glory to God in the highest!
In the highest!

(Repeat from the beginning.)

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**Lyrics** ■■■■**Joy to the World**

Joy to the world!
Joy to the world!
Joy to the world!
Joy to the world!

Joy to the world!
The Lord is come!
Let earth receive her King!
Let every heart prepare him room,
And heaven and nature sing,
And heaven and nature sing,
And heaven, and heaven, and nature sing.

(Repeat all. Then repeat intro.)

“Joy to the World” by George F. Handel.

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Lyrics ■■■■

Jesus, Jesus

Jesus came and *(clap)*
 Lived among us.
 Now we can live for him.
 Jesus came and *(clap)*
 Walked among us.
 Now we can walk with him.
 Then he gave his life,
 The greatest sacrifice!

(Chorus)
Jesus, Jesus, *(clap)*
Precious Jesus,
He died and rose again!
Jesus, Jesus, *(clap)*
Precious Jesus,
He gave his life for you and me!

Jesus came and *(clap)*
 Lived among us.
 Now we can live for him.
 Jesus came and *(clap)*
 Walked among us.
 Now we can walk with him.
 Then he gave his life,
 The greatest sacrifice!

(Repeat chorus 2x.)

He gave his life for you and me!
He gave his life for you and me!
He gave his life for you and me!

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