

Lesson 16

12-20-2020
LEADER GUIDE



THE BIRTH OF JESUS

MATTHEW 1-2 & LUKE 1-2

GOAL

- ▶ To help children understand the events of Jesus's birth and rejoice that He has come.

CHARACTERS

- ▶ **Mary:** Though she was a virgin and was not married, Mary gave birth to baby Jesus.
- Joseph:** He was engaged to Mary, and together they traveled to Bethlehem right before Jesus was born.
- Jesus:** He came to earth as a newborn baby.
- Shepherds:** They first heard the wonderful news of Jesus' birth and celebrated His coming.

MEMORY VERSE

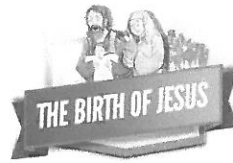
- ▶ **Luke 2:11:** For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord.

OVERVIEW

- ▶ **Read over the birth accounts of Jesus in Luke 2 and Matthew 1-2:** God sent Jesus, His Son, to earth as a helpless baby. He was born to Mary and Joseph in a city called Bethlehem.

MEMORY VERSE MEANING

- ▶ **Luke 2:11:** When announcing the birth of Jesus, the angel said "unto you" a Savior is born. While the angel was speaking directly to the shepherds, that line is meant to be read as if it were being directed at the reader. Unto each and every one of us, a Savior was born.



QUESTION & ANSWER

SLIDE 1



Q1a: Who was engaged to be married?

A1: Joseph and Mary

Q1b: God has a special plan for all of us. What do you hope His plan is for your life?

TN: Give the students an opportunity to answer. Most students will likely answer by saying what they want to be when they grow up, but some may tell you how they hope to work to spread the Gospel or help others.

SLIDE 2



Q2a: What did the angel tell Mary?

A2: He told Mary of God's plan for her to have a son named Jesus.



QUESTION & ANSWER

SLIDE 3



Q3a: Who did the angel say would be the father of the baby?

A3: The Holy Spirit, not Joseph

Q3b: What do you think would have happened if Mary said no thanks to God's plan?

Remember Jonah!

TN: It is important to remember that just because God has a plan for our lives, doesn't mean that we have to follow it. Mary could have focused on the problems this plan would present in her life and decided that it was too much for her to handle. God gave us free will so we can make the decision whether or not to follow God and His plan; He doesn't force His will on us. If Mary didn't agree to participate in God's plan, He would have found someone else who would willingly participate. When we don't follow God, we're the only ones who miss out; God's plan will be carried out whether we participate in it or not.

SLIDE 4



Q4a: What did Joseph worry he would have to do?

A4: He worried that he would have to end their engagement.



QUESTION & ANSWER

SLIDE 5



Q5a: What did the angel tell Joseph about the baby?

A5: The angel told Joseph that the baby was a miracle from God.

Q5b: Have you ever had a dream so real that you thought it actually happened?

TN: Even if Joseph didn't think that this dream really happened, it did change his attitude toward continuing his relationship with Mary.

SLIDE 6



Q6a: Why did Joseph and Mary have to travel to Bethlehem?

A6: Because the emperor ordered a census



Q8a: Where did Joseph and Mary have to stay once they arrived in Bethlehem?

A8: The only place available for them to stay was a barn.



QUESTION & ANSWER

SLIDE 9



Q9a: What did they use as a bed for the baby?

A9: The manger

SLIDE 10



Q10a: What did the shepherds do after the angels announced Jesus' birth?

A10: They went to Bethlehem and worshiped Jesus.



**MEMORY
VERSE**

▶ **Luke 2:11:** For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord.

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BIG IDEA

▶ The birth of a tiny baby was the biggest thing to ever happen to the whole world.

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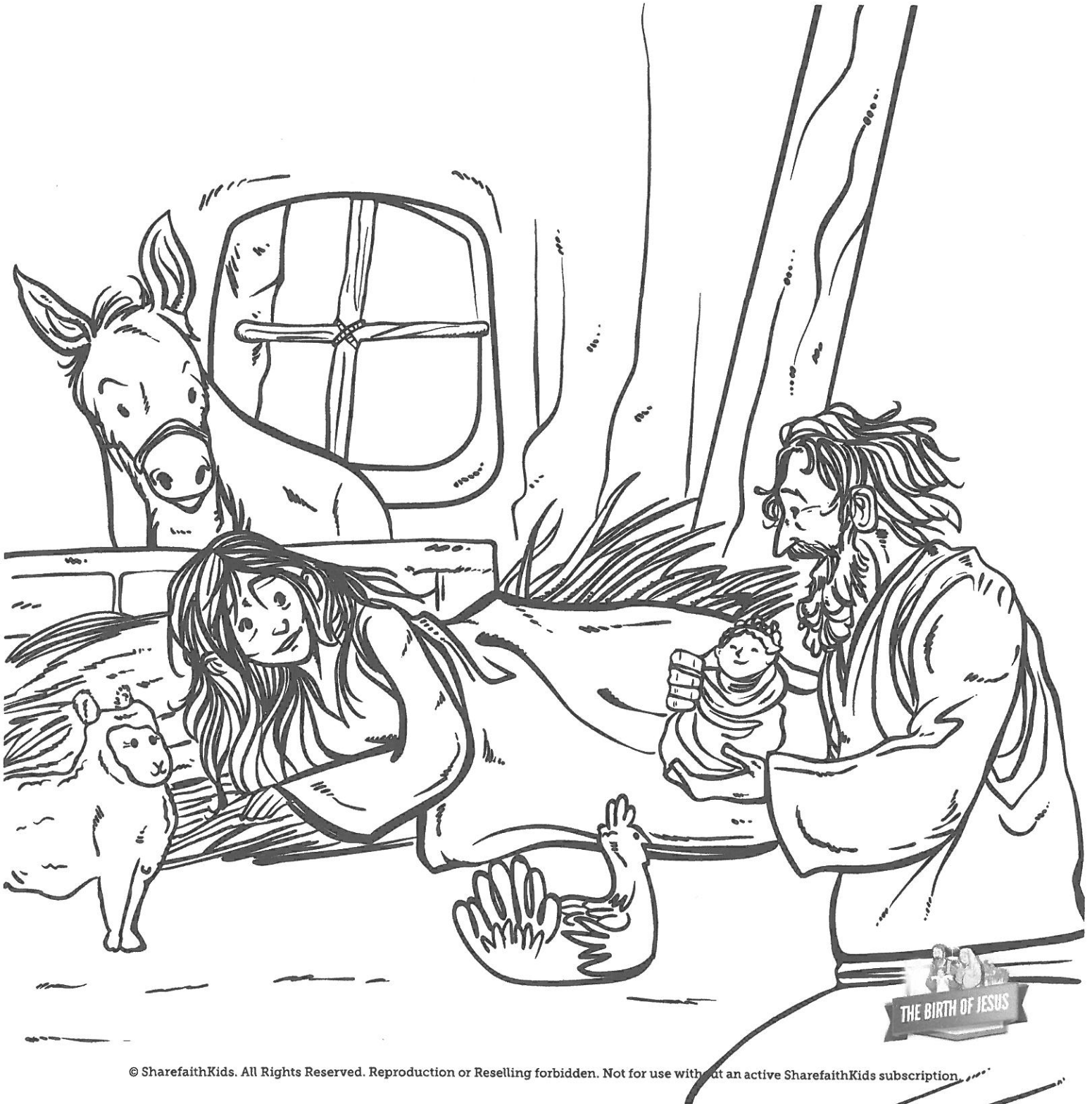
**CLOSING
PRAYER**

▶ God, thank You for sending Your Son. Thank You that He was born to be our Savior. Help us to show Your love to the people in our lives. We ask these things in Jesus' name, Amen.

THE BIRTH OF JESUS

Luke 2:11

For unto you is born this day in the city of David
a Savior, who is Christ the Lord.



THE BIRTH OF JESUS

Spot 8 differences between the two pictures.



A LONG JOURNEY

Help Mary and Joseph find the way to Bethlehem.



Nazareth

start
→

end
→

Bethlehem

Joseph and Mary went on a long journey from the town of Nazareth to the town of Bethlehem.

(Luke 2:1-5)

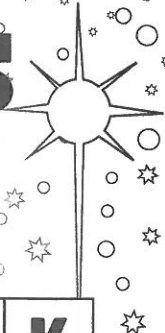
Hidden Pictures



Find 3 stars, 2 bells, 1 angel, 3 crosses, 1 staff, and 2 candles hidden in the manger.



THE BIRTH OF JESUS



Discover the hidden words.

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

Word Bank

MESSIAH

JESUS

BABY

ANGELS

SHEPHERDS

HEROD

CENSUS

STABLE

MARY

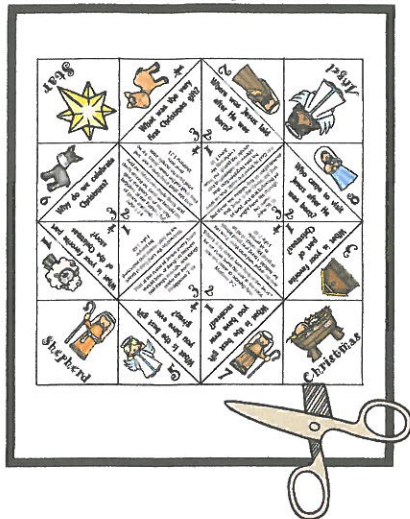
JOSEPH

CARPENTER

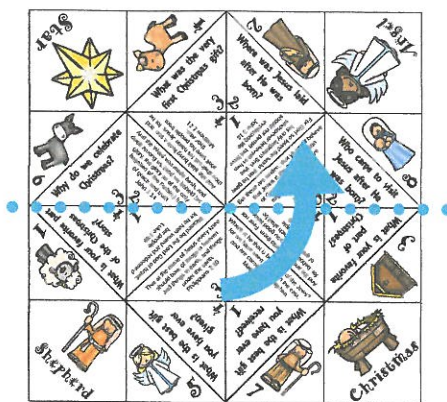
STAR



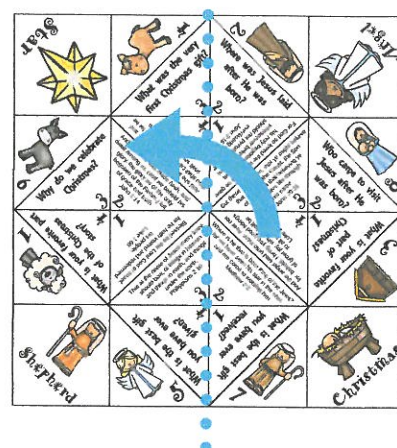
1. Cut out the square along the outer lines. Do not cut any interior lines.



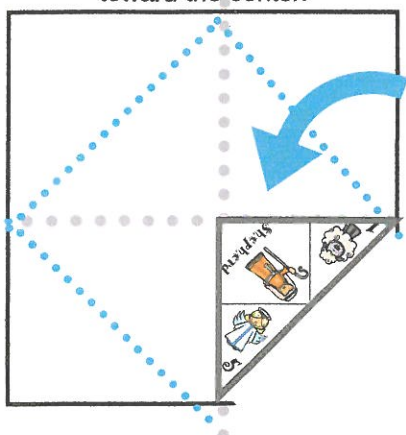
2. With picture side up, fold square in half. Unfold.



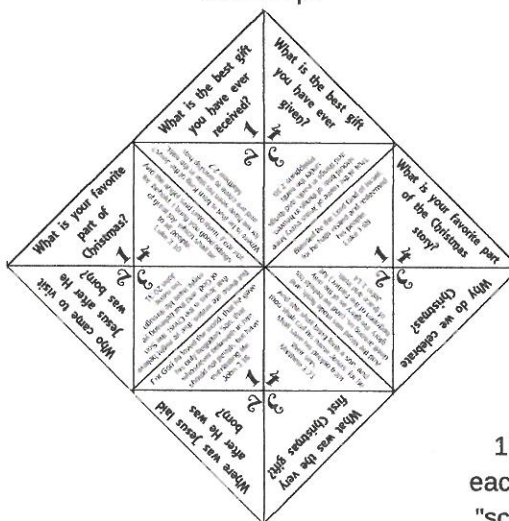
3. Fold in half the other direction. Unfold.



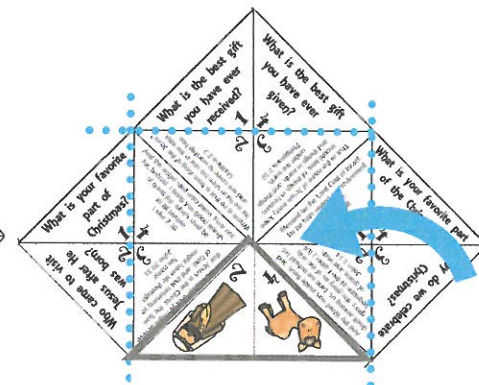
4. Flip paper over, picture side down. Fold the corners up and toward the center.



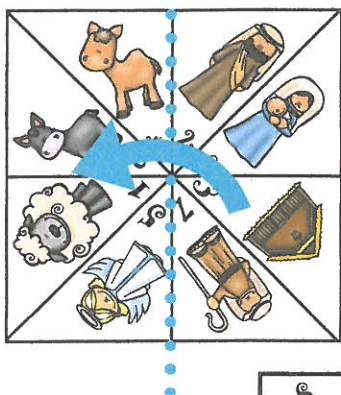
5. Flip the page over again so that the word side is up.



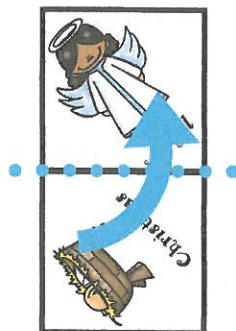
6. Fold the corners up to the center of the square.



7. You will now have a square with pictures up. Fold square in half.



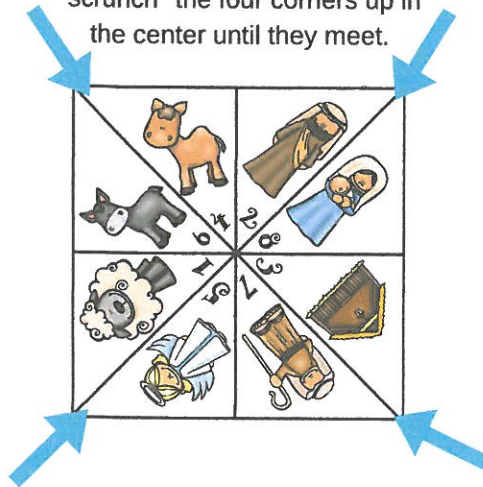
8. Fold rectangle in half.



9. You should have a tiny square. Unfold until you have 8 pictures looking up at you again.


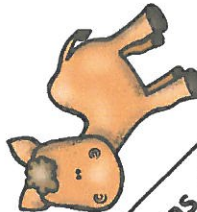
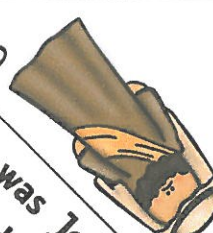



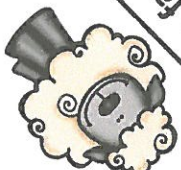
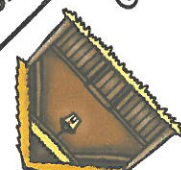


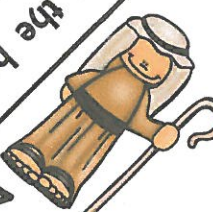



10. Place your fingers under each of the flaps in the back and "scrunch" the four corners up in the center until they meet.



11. After the corners are lifted to the center, you should see this image, but 3-D. You are done!



 <p>Star</p>	 <p>What was the very first Christmas gift?</p>	 <p>Where was Jesus laid after He was born?</p>	 <p>Angel</p>
 <p>Why do we celebrate Christmas?</p>	<p>She will give birth to a son, and you are to give him the name Jesus, because he will save his people from their sins.' Matthew 1:21</p> <p>The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us. We have seen his glory, the glory of the one and only Son, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth. John 1:14</p>	<p>For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life. John 3:16</p> <p>But these are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that by believing in his name, you may have life. John 20:31</p>	 <p>Who came to visit Jesus after He was born?</p>
 <p>What is your favorite part of the Christmas story?</p>	<p>Praise be to the Lord, the God of Israel, because he has redeemed his people and Luke 1:68</p> <p>That at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth, and under the earth, Philippians 2:10</p>	<p>But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid. I bring you good news that will cause great joy for all the people. Luke 2:10</p> <p>Where is the one who has been born king of the Jews? We saw his star when it rose and have come to worship him." Matthew 2:2</p>	 <p>What is your favorite part of Christmas?</p>
 <p>Shepherd</p>	 <p>What is the best gift you have ever given?</p>	 <p>What is the best gift you have ever received?</p>	 <p>Christmas</p>