

Sunday Teacher's Lesson for children



Life of Christ

A trip to Egypt for Jesus

Matthew 2:1-23

Younger Verse

A Savior has been born to you; He is Christ the Lord. Luke 2:11

Older Verse

Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; He is Christ the Lord. Luke 2:11

Welcome Time

Have you ever had to take a trip somewhere in your car? Sometimes it's fun riding together and sometimes it seems like it takes forever to get somewhere. Let's see why Jesus and His family traveled.

Bible Story

*Please note: This portion of the lesson is given to help in teaching the lesson. Please read through the story and read it in the Bible. Do **NOT** read from this piece of paper. Instead, make a note sheet and place it next to the story in the Bible.*

Last week we celebrated something very special. We celebrated Christmas when Jesus was born. We learned how Jesus was born in a stable barn and used an animal feed box (manger) as his crib. The angels came to the shepherds in the fields and told them the good news. They ran to see Jesus and told many people what they saw.

In the sky a beautiful, bright star shone in the sky. It was not like the stars that we always see in the sky. It was a new star that God made to let people know that something special had happened. Far away, there were several men who saw that star and knew that God had done a special miracle. The star moved and guided them to Jesus' country.

These wise men brought special presents because they knew this child that was born was a baby that deserved wonderful presents. They brought gold, incense and spices called myrrh.

At first they stopped at the most important city called Jerusalem to see Jesus but discovered that King Herod knew nothing of a baby being born. Finally someone remembered that God told His people that a special baby would be born in Bethlehem.

Herod asked the men to come back and tell him exactly where Jesus was when they found him.

The men traveled and found Jesus in Bethlehem. They worshiped Him and gave Him the special gifts. As they were returning, God used a dream to tell them to go back home a different way and not tell King Herod the news. King Herod wanted to kill baby Jesus because he was afraid that Jesus would take over his kingdom.

An angel also came to Joseph in a dream. God told him to get up and leave Bethlehem. So, Joseph got up in the middle of the night and took Mary and Jesus to another

Lesson Goals

See how God took care of Jesus

Obey God when He tells us to do something

Share how God protected Jesus and how He will protect us



country. They traveled to the country of Egypt which is in Africa. A very long time ago, people built big triangle buildings called pyramids. Joseph and Mary probably saw those pyramids as they rode on donkeys to Africa.

Joseph obeyed God and followed immediately. It is a good thing that Joseph listened to God because King Herod decided to kill all the baby boys in Bethlehem to make sure that Jesus did not live. Herod had no idea that God was protecting Jesus and they had escaped to another country.

After Herod died, an angel told Joseph in a dream that it was safe to return to their country. They traveled back and lived in a town called Nazareth. God had told His people very long ago that Jesus would grow up in Nazareth. Again, God kept His promise.

Joseph listened and obeyed God when He spoke. God wants us to listen and obey Him also. He probably won't tell us something in a dream like Joseph or the wise men. However, God will help us know what to do through the Bible.

God took care of Jesus and He will take care of us too. Jesus was a special person because He was God's only Son. He was born for a special reason and plan. Jesus had a mission to help us. When He grew up, Jesus helped many people know more about God. He shared things that helped people learn and know more about God.

Best of all, Jesus did something to help all of us. Jesus lived a perfect life. He never sinned or did wrong. That is important because He took our place for all the wrongs that we have done. He died on the cross for all the sins that we have done not anything He had done wrong. Then, three days later, Jesus came back to life. If we believe in Him and ask Him to forgive our sins, He will clean out our hearts. He will make them clean and help us do things God's way. He will come into our lives and help us do right and live for God instead of doing things for ourselves. Would you like to know more about Jesus? Talk to me today about it.

Learning Activities

Make sure the kids learn what it means to follow God and trust Him.

Memory Verse Activities

Jesus was born in the town of David, another name for Bethlehem. Roll up a piece of paper like a megaphone and write the verse on it. Let the kids announce the news that Jesus is born!

Prayer Time

Thank God for taking care of us. Ask Him to help us obey Him immediately like Joseph did.

Snack Time/CleanUp

Share snacks together. Be sure to let the kids help clean up.

Preschool Lesson for Children
For
A trip for Jesus

Hi! I'm a little donkey. I have a story to tell you about Jesus.

One day while I was asleep in the hay, Joseph came to me and told me to wake up. It was hard waking up in the middle of the night. He had to nudge me several times. Finally I woke up. Joseph put a blanket on my back and I wondered why he was in such a hurry.

Mary and Jesus sat on my back and Joseph carried their things on another donkey. I wondered why they were being so secretive.

On the trip, I heard Joseph tell Mary that an angel told him to get up and leave the town. He shared that the angel told him the king would try to kill baby Jesus.

It was a hard trip for all of us but we finally made it to Africa. Africa is another country next to Israel where Jesus was born. It had different kings and God knew Jesus would be safe there.

I'm so glad that Joseph listened to God and did what He said. He obeyed immediately.

We can show God how much we love Him by obeying our mom or dad immediately when they ask us to do something. Instead of taking a little while, stand up and obey your parents immediately!

Thank God for loving us and taking care of us like He took care of baby Jesus!



Hands-On Activities For A trip for Jesus

Play the Escape to Egypt game. Make a map of the room or outside area. Have the kids follow the map to a special surprise! You may want to provide clues along the way!

Use sugar cubes to make a pyramid. Another idea is to use marshmallows and frosting.

As we approach the new year, talk to the kids about their year and how following God will make next year so amazing.

Make “donkey” food. Bring zipper bags for each person, cereal, peanut butter, powdered sugar, and Karo syrup. Put a little in each bag filled with cereal and zip closed. Let the kids work the concoction into the cereal and eat it!

Draw a set of pictures of things that Jesus may have seen on His trip to Egypt. You may want to make it like a scrapbook page with little photo holders, stickers etc.