

Birth of Jesus

Card 10

2 Read Aloud

Matthew 1:18-23

1 Review Activity

3 Storytelling

Pass out Card 10. Share the story.

- An angel came to a young virgin called Mary and told her that she would have a son. Her son would be called Jesus, and he would save people from their sins. When people disobey God, it is called sin. Anyone who sins needs to be punished. For Jesus to save people from sin means that they could be saved from their punishment if they trust and follow Jesus.
- The angel told Mary, “He will be very great and will be called Jesus, the Son of the Most High.” This means that Jesus was God’s very own son. Jesus was born through Mary but is God’s son! Nothing like this had ever happened before and will never happen again.
- Mary was engaged to a man called Joseph. An angel also visited Joseph to tell him that Mary would become pregnant with God’s son. Joseph believed and trusted God.
- When Mary was pregnant with Jesus, Joseph took her to a town called Bethlehem because King Herod, the ruler at the time, wanted everyone to return to their home town to be counted. Joseph’s family was from Bethlehem.
- While in Bethlehem, Mary had her baby in a stable because there was no room for them anywhere else.
- Angels appeared to some shepherds in the hills nearby saying, “Don’t be afraid! I bring you good news that will bring great joy to all people. The Saviour—yes, the Messiah, the Lord—has been born today in Bethlehem!” Saviour, Messiah and Lord are all names that the Israelites used to describe God.
- The shepherds went to visit Jesus in the stable and then returned to their fields, praising God for all the things they had heard and seen. Everything was just as the angels had told them.
- Many years before Jesus was born, God told Israel that Jesus would come. Everything God said came true.

4 Discussion Questions

1. Who told Mary she would have a son? (angel)
2. What was she supposed to name him? What would he do? (Jesus, the Son of the Most High; save people from their sins)
3. What did the angels say to the shepherds? (Good news! The Messiah/Saviour has been born)

5 Memory Verse

Matthew 1:21

And she will have a son, and you are to name him Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins.

6 Activity: Sit Down

Ask the entire group to stand. Tell them to sit down when the statement characterises them. Once seated, they must remain seated. Encourage them to be honest. If you have trouble because most are not sitting down, give them general characteristics. Example: “Sit down if you are under eight, if you have on a necklace, if you have a brother.” Play until one person is standing.

Teacher Background

Review Card Set

Scripture: Matthew 1:18-24,
Luke 1:26-38, Luke 2:1-20

Theme: prophecy fulfilled

7 Learning Point

Throughout the Bible, God was making promises to send a Saviour to the world. In the story of Jesus’ birth, those promises were fulfilled. At the end of our game there was only one person left standing because they passed all the criteria. This is how it is with Jesus. He is the only one who matched all the prophecies and could be our Saviour. God was faithful to do what he said and sent a perfect Saviour; through Jesus, the world would have peace with God. Jesus came to save you, too, so that you can have peace with God. We have all sinned and deserve punishment, but God has been faithful to save us. Do you believe God’s promise to save you through Jesus? Pray that God will help you believe. Jesus is God’s promise and prophecy to us, fulfilled!

8 Review Card Set

