

Lesson 1 **The Birth of Jesus**

**Objective:** To learn that God is faithful and He always keeps His promise.

**Background:** After Adam and Eve sinned against God (they disobeyed God's Word), God promised that one day He would send a Savior (Jesus) to earth to save men from sin. (Genesis 3:1-15; 12:11-3 in the Old Testament) Even though thousands of years passed, God remembered His promise. He did send Jesus about two thousand years ago, born in Palestine, a tiny Jewish country in the far eastern corner of the Roman Empire. (See the map.)

**Instruction:** Please read Luke 1:26-38; Matthew 1:18-25; Luke 2:1-7 at least twice before you do the lesson.

**Let's Think:** Read Luke 2:1-7 over again carefully before answering the questions.

1. How did Mary learn that she is going to have a baby (Jesus)? Was she married to Joseph then? Was Joseph the real father of Jesus? (Read also Luke 1:26-31.)

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2. What was Mary told about the baby (Jesus) she is going to have? (Luke 1:32,33) What will the baby become one day? (Luke 1:32,33)

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3. A prophet named Micah, who lived about 700 years before the birth of Jesus, foretold that Jesus will be born in Bethlehem (Micah 5:12 in the Old Testament; Matthew 2:1-6). Was the prophet Micah right? If so, how did it happen since Joseph and Mary didn't live in Nazareth? Explain (Locate the places on a map.)

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4. Did the people in town gather to celebrate the birth of Jesus when Jesus was born? On a separate piece of paper, draw a picture and show where Mary put the baby Jesus and explain why she put him there.

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5. Who picked the name "Jesus" for the baby? What does the name mean? (Read Matthew 1:20,21)  
Does it tell you why Jesus came to earth? Explain

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6. Do you know Jesus loves you and He is waiting to come into your heart to save you from your sin and to help you? (Please read Revelations 3:20) Would you invite Him into your heart? If so, tell Him about it, but you must really mean it. And don't forget to thank God for loving you. Write out what you want to tell him.

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**Let's Remember:** An angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph saying, "...she (Mary) will bear a son, and you (Joseph) shall call his name Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins." (Matthew 1:21)

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