



At-A-Glance: Ages 10-12  
God of Wonders: The Wonder of Advent  
Unit 10, Lesson 50

## Advent 3: Jesus Is Born

Lesson Aim: To see God has specific plans for how He comes near to us.

### THE WELCOME

**MEET & GREET:** What is your favorite thing about babies?

**GAME:** Near and Far

### THE WORSHIP THE GOD WHO COMES NEAR

Read Worship Scripture: Luke 2:6-7.

Sing songs and worship God.

Bless and collect the offering.

Advent Candle Lighting Ceremony: The Bethlehem Candle

Perform High Seas Adventures script or read storybook.

### THE WORD JESUS IS BORN

Children sign note cards; place in Golden Bowl. Classroom Covenant.

Review: God sent His angel Gabriel to prepare Mary for the birth of Jesus.

Point to Jesus on Earth (Circa 1-33 A.D.). **Today, we will hear how Jesus came into the world as a baby with a humble birth in a manger. He was born in a small town in Israel called Bethlehem.** Point to Bethlehem. **This story may be familiar to you. If so, as we read, look for something new that God might show you about Jesus' birth.**

Reveal Bible Story Scripture Reference: Luke 2:1-7; John 1:1-2. Find It First. Highlight Key Verse: Luke 2:7. Pray. Read Luke 2:1-7. **Jesus lived in heaven before He was born. Let's find out when life began for Jesus. He is also named the Word.** Read John 1:1-2.

### THE WAY JESUS COMES NEAR TO YOU

**What makes a baby special? Jesus was special in all those ways. In what ways was His birth different than the birth of other babies?**

(ie. born in a stable, angels announced His birth, Son of God, star over His birthplace.) **When does the Bible say life began for Jesus, the Word?** (Before the beginning of creation.) **Unlike other babies, Jesus lived before He was in His mother's womb. He has been alive since before the creation of the heavens and earth. Who is Jesus' father?** (God.) **Unlike other babies, He had no earthly father.**

**Why did Joseph and Mary travel to Bethlehem?** (To be counted for the Roman census.) **A census is an official count of people. It was a way for Caesar to know how many people were in his kingdom. Before Caesar ordered the census, Mary and Joseph probably thought their child would be born in Nazareth in a home surrounded by family. What might they have thought when the baby was due and they heard they had to go to Bethlehem? How might they have felt when it was time for the baby and there was no room in the inn?**

It may have seemed to Mary and Joseph that their plans were failing, but in reality, according to God's plan, everything was happening perfectly. Have you ever felt as if everything was going wrong or that your plans were failing? How can this story help you trust that God uses all situations in our lives to get us in just the right place at the right time to draw us closer to Him?

### **CHRIST CONNECTION:**

**How would you expect our powerful God to come into the world? God has come near to others in the Bible through angels, clouds, smoke, lightning, and even trumpets. Why do you think He chose such a quiet, humble way to come near us with the birth of Jesus? God comes in many ways. Check out the quiet way He came near to Elijah over 800 years before He came quietly to Bethlehem as a baby.** Reveal 1 Kings 19:11-13. Find It First. Highlight. Read.

**Elijah heard God's voice in the gentle whisper. Sometimes, we feel nearest to God when we see His majestic creation or His powerful acts of nature. Sometimes, we feel nearest to Him in still quiet moments of prayer. When do you feel God is near?**

**THE GOLDEN BOWL:** Pray for individuals. Pray the Lord's Prayer.

### **FINAL FIVE MINUTES:**

- TREASURE TREAT: Strip of soft pastel-colored cloth
- W<sup>3</sup> BETWEEN THE LINES Journal Entry #50
- OFFERING OF ART: Jesus lying in the manger
- PRAYER REQUESTS
- BIBLE MEMORY VERSE SONG

### **GOT TIME?**

**SNACK:** Manger Snack

**GAME:** Census

**CRAFT:** Baby Blanket

**DISCUSSION:** God Comes Near

**BIBLE MEMORY VERSE ACTIVITIES:** Appearing Angel, Memory Verse Circle

**BIBLE TIMELINE REVIEW**