



Advent 3: Jesus Is Born

Lesson Aim: To know Jesus was born in a manger in Bethlehem.

THE WORSHIP

Who God is: The God Who Comes Near

THE WORD

Bible Story: Luke 2:1-7

What He has done: God gave us His Son, baby Jesus.

THE WAY

Whisper Verse: "A Savior has been born."

BIBLE MEMORY VERSE

"Glory to God in the highest!" Luke 2:14a

BIBLE MEMORY VERSE (Challenge Verse for older children)

"I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people. Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; He is Christ the Lord. Glory to God in the highest." Luke 2:10b, 11, 14a

Unit 10: The God Who Comes Near			
	Bible Story	What He Has Done	Lesson Aim
48	Advent 1: Gabriel Visits Zechariah, Luke 1:11-22, 62-64	God sent His angel Gabriel to tell Zechariah the good news.	To know God gets believers ready for Christmas.
49	Advent 2: Gabriel and Mary, Luke 1:28-33	God sent His angel Gabriel to prepare Mary for the birth of Jesus.	To know the Lord is with us as He was with Mary.
50	Advent 3: Jesus Is Born, Luke 2:1-7	God gave us His Son, baby Jesus.	To know Jesus was born in a manger in Bethlehem.
51	Advent 4: An Angel Visits the Shepherds, Luke 2:8-16	God sent an angel to announce the birth of Jesus to the shepherds.	To know God sent an angel to tell the shepherds about Jesus.
52	Following the Star, Matthew 2:1-2, 9-11	God sent a star.	To know the wise men followed a star.

TEACHER'S ENCOURAGEMENT

This week, read Philippians 2:5-11. Please join us in praying, "Thank You, Lord, for coming to earth as a baby so we can know You in a way that is familiar to us. Help the children understand You are always near them. Amen."



**THE WORSHIP
THE WORD &
THE WAY**

Segment	Minutes	Activity	Supplies
THE WELCOME	Up to 15	Picture Schedule Cards	Cards with picture illustrating the activities: WELCOME, WORSHIP, BIBLE, CRAFT, PRAYER, SNACK, GAMES, COLORING, GOING HOME. Envelope labeled FINISHED. Optional: To display schedule, use Velcro to attach laminated Picture Schedule cards to a felt board.
		Treasure Chest	Stamp or sticker of baby Jesus
		Whisper Verse	Sign language for "A Savior has been born."
THE WORSHIP	Up to 20	Worship Sheet music and recordings for Bible Memory Verse Songs available at ResourceWell.org.	Advent Wreath (Four candles set in a wreath) Unit 10 Bible Memory Verse Song: "I Bring You Good News" (age 4 - grade 5) Other Bible Memory Verse Song Suggestions: "It's Praise Time," "Give Thanks to the Lord," "His One and Only Son," "I Am with You," "I Will Remember" Additional Song Suggestions: "O Come, All Ye Faithful," "Away in a Manger"
		Offering	Baskets
		Worship Illustration	God of Wonders Lesson 50 Delbert & Lello
THE WORD	Up to 10	Watch the Word: Luke 2:1-7	Teacher's Bible with bookmark at Luke 2:7 Visual: Nativity scene or baby blanket Flannel board/figures: Baby Jesus in manger, Mary, Joseph Clay/play-dough: Manger
THE WAY:	Up to 25	Craft: Baby Jesus Ornament	Angel created in Lesson 48, white felt (or fabric or paper), sturdy white paper, light blue fabric for swaddling cloth (may substitute paper or felt), glue, crayons or markers
		Alternative Craft: Advent Wreath	See instructions.
		Circle of Prayer or Lord's Prayer	Lord's Prayer word and picture book
		Snack: Manger Munchies	Any fruit, sugar cubes, or granola (foods that donkeys might enjoy)
		Unit 10 Games: Sand Search	Bin or container of clean sand, nativity scene pieces such as angel, baby Jesus in manger, Mary, Joseph, shepherd, sheep, star
		Thumbs Up or Thumbs Down	None, optional: hand puppet or finger puppets
		Gabriel's Message Ball Roll	Soft textured ball used for rolling (optional: decorate ball with Christmas colors)
		Blanket Ball Praise	Blanket or sturdy tablecloth, balloon or ball
		Where is Baby Jesus?	Flashlight, small baby doll or picture of baby Jesus
		Good News Musical Chairs	Unit 10 Bible Memory Verse Song, CD player, chairs
		Scenes from High Seas Adventures	The scripts for Lessons 48, 49, 50, 51, 52
		Act it Out	Bible times clothing or stick puppets of Gabriel, Zechariah, Mary, Joseph, baby Jesus, shepherds, wise men, star
	Final 5	Final Five	Daily Way (Adaptation): Unit 10, Lesson 50 Color This Story: "Jesus Is Born"

RESOURCES: Supplemental materials are available at ResourceWell.org.



A Savior has been born

THE WELCOME

PICTURE SCHEDULE: WELCOME TIME

WELCOME > WORSHIP > BIBLE > CRAFT > PRAYER > SNACK > GAMES > COLORING > GOING HOME

Welcome each child as they arrive. **Hello _____.** I'm glad you are here! Come and see what we are going to do today. Point to each card on the Picture Schedule board. Today, we will **WELCOME** everyone. We will read the **BIBLE** story and make a **CRAFT**. We will have **PRAYER** time and eat a **SNACK**. We will play **GAMES** and enjoy **COLORING** a picture about today's story.

Open the Treasure Chest to find today's treasure. Child unlocks the Treasure Chest to receive a sticker or stamp of baby Jesus. **Let this stamp (or sticker) of baby Jesus remind you that Jesus the Savior was born in a manger. Today's Whisper Verse is "A Savior has been born." A savior is someone who saves us.** Teach the Whisper Verse in spoken language and in sign language below. **We call it the Whisper Verse so you can whisper it to others.***

SIGN LANGUAGE: "A Savior has been born."

(For visual demonstrations, see www.signingsavvy.com.)

Each time we say today's Whisper Verse, let's say it with two hand motions:

- | | |
|-------------------------|---|
| "A Savior" | Begin with both fists crossed in front of the chest. Pull hands and arms apart, as if breaking bonds. Then, open fists and move hands slightly forward. |
| "has been born." | Place left palm, facing the body, approximately six inches from chest. Move right hand and arm away from body, palm facing down, crossing under the left. |

Allow children to enjoy free play until everyone has arrived. **Let's sing the "Clean Up Song" as we put toys away before Praise Time.** Praise any child who helps. Allow several minutes for clean up.

**"Clean Up Song": Clean up! Clean up! Everybody, everywhere!
Clean up! Clean up! Everybody do your share!**

Gather and seat children in Praise Time area.

***Today's Whisper Verse:** "A Savior has been born," Luke 2:11. The Whisper Verse is a tool to help the children learn a major point in the lesson. It is coupled with sign language or hand motions as a memory aid. The verse is not necessarily chosen from today's Bible story.



The God who comes near

THE WORSHIP

PICTURE SCHEDULE: WORSHIP TIME

WELCOME > WORSHIP > BIBLE > CRAFT > PRAYER > SNACK > GAMES > COLORING > GOING HOME

Choose a child to remove the WELCOME picture card and place it in the FINISHED envelope. **We have finished our Welcome Time. Now, we will have our Worship Time.**

Children may worship in a large group with other classes or in a quiet room with a worship CD or DVD.

Teacher Tip: To help children identify time set aside for worship, play "It's Praise Time!" as children move to a designated place for praise songs, offering, and the worship illustration. Children who are nonverbal may enjoy participating in the music by playing children's percussion instruments such as maracas, jingle bells, wood blocks, or small tambourines. Children who are sensitive to sound may prefer to wear noise reduction headphones.

To prepare for the lighting of the Christmas candles, light the first two candles on the Advent wreath.



It's Praise Time—our time to sing praise to the God who comes near. He came near when He sent His Son Jesus to be born in the town of Bethlehem. We can spend time with God today by giving our offering, singing, and praying to Him. These are great ways to thank God for all He has done for us. Let's start by giving our offering. Play: "Give Thanks to the Lord" as background music while collecting the offering.

Our Whisper Verse for today is "A Savior has been born." Review the Whisper Verse with the sign language. **A savior is someone who saves people. Jesus is the called the Savior because He came to save the world.** Sing: "I Bring You Good News."



The Lighting of the Christmas Candles: The Bethlehem Candle

Advent Wreath: 4 candles set in a wreath

We light the Christmas candles to get our hearts ready to celebrate Christmas. Today, we light our third candle, the Bethlehem candle. We light it to remind us that Jesus the Savior was born in Bethlehem. Choose a child to assist in lighting the third of the four candles on the Advent wreath. The candle lighting takes place during the performance of *The Adventures of Delbert & Lello* puppet script or after reading the storybook version.



Before we light the Bethlehem candle, let's see if Delbert and Lello know about our Christmas candles. Perform *The Adventures of Delbert and Lello* puppet script or read storybook: God of Wonders Unit 10, Lesson 50. The script includes the lighting of today's Christmas candle on the Advent wreath. If you chose to read the storybook, have a child light the third candle now.



Where did baby Jesus sleep? (In a manger.) A manger is a big box that holds the food for the stable animals. Because there was no room in the inn (hotel), Mary wrapped Jesus in cloths and laid Him in a manger. There, even the shepherds and animals could see Him and worship Him. Let's worship Him now by singing "Away in a Manger" and "O Come, All Ye Faithful." Sing the first verse of both songs.

* May substitute Lesson 50 High Seas Adventures script or storybook.



Jesus was born in a manger

THE WORD

PICTURE SCHEDULE: BIBLE TIME

WELCOME > WORSHIP > BIBLE > CRAFT > PRAYER > SNACK > GAMES > COLORING > GOING HOME

Choose a child to remove the WORSHIP picture card and place it in the FINISHED envelope. **We have finished our Worship Time. Now, we will have our Bible Time.**

Last time, we learned God sent the angel Gabriel to tell Mary the good news. Today, we will hear about the miracle of baby Jesus coming to earth. Handle the Bible as a special treasure, leaving it open to Luke 2:7.

WATCH THE WORD: LUKE 2:1-7

Read the points below or retell the passage in your own words using the points below as a general guide. To illustrate the story, display a nativity scene or hold a baby blanket. Have children assist by placing Bible Story figures on a flannel board. Other visual options include Color This Story or a related picture. Optional: To help children focus, have them create a manger (a bin containing hay for animals) from clay or play-dough as they listen.

- **Mary and Joseph traveled to Bethlehem town.**
- **They went there for it was Joseph's hometown.**
- **They arrived after traveling for a very long while.**
- **Soon it was time to have Mary's first child.**

- **He was born in a manger in Bethlehem;**
- **For there was no room for them in the inn.**
- **Mary wrapped baby Jesus in swaddling clothes,**
- **And lay Him in the manger—the place that God chose.**



Why did Mary and Joseph have to put baby Jesus in a manger? (There was no room in the inn.) **Let's find our answer in the Bible.** Read Luke 2:7 from the teacher's Bible.

Who was born in the manger? (Baby Jesus, our Savior.) **Our Whisper Verse tells us the answer.** Let's say it together, "A Savior has been born." Include sign language or hand motions.



God came near to us through baby Jesus

THE WAY

PICTURE SCHEDULE: CRAFT TIME

WELCOME > WORSHIP > BIBLE > CRAFT > PRAYER > SNACK > GAMES > COLORING > GOING HOME

Choose a child to remove the BIBLE picture card and place it in the FINISHED envelope. **We have finished our Bible Time. Now, it is Craft Time.**

CRAFT: BABY JESUS ORNAMENT

Purpose: To know Jesus was born in a manger.

Supplies: Advent Angel craft created in Lesson 48, white felt (or fabric or paper), sturdy white paper, light blue fabric for swaddling cloth (may substitute paper or felt), glue, crayons or markers

Prepare: From white felt, cut a 4-inch triangle. Draw and cut out the shape of baby Jesus from sturdy white paper. Cut out a piece of light blue fabric for swaddling cloth. On a label, print: **"A Savior has been born."**

Alternate Craft: Instead of adding this ornament to the Advent Angel created in lesson 48, create an individual ornament by punching a hole in the top and threading ribbon through the hole.

Directions:

1. Use crayons or markers to color baby Jesus.
2. Glue the fabric onto the baby Jesus cut-out for swaddling cloth.
3. Glue the baby Jesus cut-out onto the felt triangle.

Craft Discussion:

- **Baby Jesus was laid in a manger because there was no room in the inn. Who remembers what a manger is?** (A large box from which animals eat.)
- **How was baby Jesus' first bed and first outfit different than most babies?** (He was wrapped in cloth instead of a baby blanket. He was laid in a manger instead of a crib or basket.)

THE WAY *continued...*

ALTERNATIVE CRAFT: ADVENT WREATH

Purpose: Children work together to create an Advent wreath.

Supplies: Wire or pipe cleaners (brown or green), greenery (ivy strands, pine needles, etc.), four tall purple candles, four candleholders, sturdy paper plate, glue or tape

Teacher Tip: Create one wreath for the classroom or individual wreaths for children to take home. The directions for this wreath suggest four candles. Some wreaths add a fifth candle, "the Christ candle," which is in the center of the wreath and is lit on Christmas Eve or Christmas Day.

Advent means coming. In the four weeks before Christmas, believers use an Advent wreath to celebrate the coming of Jesus our Lord. Each week we light a new candle. The circle shape of our Advent wreath has no beginning and no end reminds us of the promise of a never ending life forever with God.

Directions:

1. Use wire or pipe cleaners to create a wreath shape (circle) and place it on the plate.
2. Attach the greenery to the wreath shape using glue, tape, or additional pipe cleaners.
3. Place the four candleholders evenly along the inner rim of wreath.
4. Place the purple candles in the candleholders.
5. Note: Over time, you may need to replace any browning greenery with fresh greenery.

Flameless Advent Wreaths: (1) Cut candle shapes from sturdy gold or yellow paper. Color the flames red or orange. Attach the candles to the plate with tape. (2) Use battery operated candles.

THE WAY *continued...*



CIRCLE OF PRAYER/THE LORD'S PRAYER

PICTURE SCHEDULE: PRAYER TIME

WELCOME > WORSHIP > BIBLE > CRAFT > PRAYER > SNACK > GAMES > COLORING > GOING HOME

Choose a child to remove the CRAFT picture card and place it in the FINISHED envelope. **We have finished our Craft Time. Now, it is Prayer Time.**

God made you and He cares for you. He loves to hear you pray with private words or words you say out loud. Let's fold our hands and close our eyes. As I lift up your name to God in heaven, I will lay my hand on your shoulder. Let's pray together.

Dear God, thank You for making us and loving us. We lift up to You a special prayer for ____, ____, ____ (say every name). We pray for our families and friends. Thank You for teaching us how to love one another. Amen. You may add the Lord's Prayer with the word picture book.

PICTURE SCHEDULE: SNACK TIME

WELCOME > WORSHIP > BIBLE > CRAFT > PRAYER > SNACK > GAMES > COLORING > GOING HOME

Choose a child to remove the PRAYER picture card and place it in the FINISHED envelope. **We have finished our Prayer Time. Now, it is Snack Time.**

Teacher Tip: It is important to keep a record of all dietary restrictions and allergies accessible. Some parents may prefer to bring their child's snack. Depending on the dietary needs of your classroom, you may determine it is best to omit snack time completely.

SNACK: MANGER MUNCHIES

Purpose: To remember Jesus' birth.

Snack Suggestion: Any fruit, sugar cubes, or granola (foods that donkeys might enjoy)

Directions:

1. Serve snack and drink.
2. **Let's sing the "Blessing Song."** Sing to the tune of "Frere Jacques" or other familiar tune.
God our Father, God our Father. Once again, once again.
Thank You for our blessings. Thank You for our blessings. Amen. Amen.
3. Lead discussion below while children enjoy their snack.
 - **Who remembers the Whisper Verse?** ("A Savior has been born.") **Let's say it together with the hand motions.**
 - **Today, our snack reminds us of food a donkey would eat. Along with hay, this is the kind of food that would be in a manger. A manger is a box that holds the food for stable animals.**
 - **Do you have any pets?** (Children respond.) **What do your pets eat?** (Children respond.) **Do they eat from a bowl or from a manger?** (Children respond.)
 - **Joseph and Mary had a long journey to Bethlehem. Have you ever taken a long trip?** (Children respond.) **Where did you go?** (Children respond.) **Who went with you?** (Children respond.) **Where did you stay?** (Children respond.)
 - **How was your trip the same as Mary and Joseph's trip?** (Children respond.) **How was it different?** (Children respond.)

THE WAY (GAME OPTIONS)

UNIT 10 GAME OPTIONS

Play one or more of the activities below until the last five minutes of class then proceed to Final Five.

PICTURE SCHEDULE: GAMES TIME

WELCOME > WORSHIP > BIBLE > CRAFT > PRAYER > SNACK > **GAMES** > COLORING > GOING HOME

Choose a child to remove the SNACK picture card and place it in the FINISHED envelope. **We have finished our Snack Time. Now, is our time to play Games.**

GAME: SAND SEARCH

Purpose: This sand sifting activity soothes children. The items in the bin can be used to introduce the Bible stories or the Unit 10 Worship Attribute: The God Who Comes Near.

Supplies: Bin or container of clean sand, nativity scene pieces such as angel, baby Jesus in manger, Mary, Joseph, shepherd, sheep, star

Directions:

1. Children take turns reaching into the sand in search of the objects.
2. Teacher and children discuss each object as it is located.
3. When all the objects have been located, display them on a tabletop or on the surface of the sand.
4. Children feel each item as the teacher explains their connection to the Unit 10 Bible stories about the birth of Jesus. **The angel reminds us of the angel Gabriel who announced the birth of Jesus and of the angels the shepherds saw in their fields on the night Jesus was born. The shepherd (or sheep) reminds us of the shepherds who ran to find baby Jesus and told Mary about the angels in the field. Mary and Joseph remind us that Jesus had an earthly mother and father who cared for Him. The baby Jesus reminds us that Jesus was born in a manger in Bethlehem. The star reminds us that God used a star to lead the wise men to Bethlehem to find baby Jesus.**

GAME: THUMBS UP OR THUMBS DOWN?

Purpose: This nonverbal true-false game helps children master the Bible story or the Unit 10 Bible Memory Verse.

Supplies: None, optional: hand puppet or finger puppets

Directions:

1. Teacher or puppet retells today's Bible story or Bible Memory Verse, pausing after each phrase to say, "Thumbs up or thumbs down?"
 - If retelling the Bible story, read it in phrases. For some phrases, state accurate descriptions. For other phrases, replace the truth with silly facts. For example, say, **The shepherds told the angel about baby Jesus. Thumbs up or thumbs down?** Children respond with thumbs down. **The angel told the shepherds about baby Jesus. Thumbs up or thumbs down?** Children respond with thumbs up.
 - If reviewing the Bible Memory Verse, read it in phrases. For some phrases, read it correctly. For other phrases, replace a word with another word that makes no sense. For example, say, **I bring you good news of great joy that will be for most of the people. Thumbs up or thumbs down?** Children respond with thumbs down. **"I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people." Thumbs up or thumbs down?** Children respond with thumbs up.

THE WAY (GAME OPTIONS) *continued...*

GAME: GABRIEL'S MESSAGE BALL ROLL

Purpose: To remind the children that the Lord is with them.

Supplies: Soft, textured ball used for rolling (optional: decorate ball with Christmas colors)

The angel Gabriel appeared, called Mary's name, and spoke to her. At first, Mary was surprised and afraid of the angel. Imagine what it would be like for an angel to appear in this room right now and tell you that the Lord is with you.

Directions:

1. Children sit in a circle.
2. Roll the ball to a child and lead everyone in saying,
Child's name, child's name, do not be afraid.
The Lord is with you every day.
3. Assist the child in choosing another child to whom he or she will roll the ball.
4. Repeat steps 2-3 until every child has a turn.

GAME: BLANKET BALL PRAISE

Purpose: Children apply the Unit 10 Bible Memory Verse and see how high their praise balloon can go.

Supplies: Blanket or sturdy tablecloth, balloon or ball

God is in heaven. Where is heaven? Prompt the children to say, "Heaven is higher than the clouds in the sky." **When Jesus was born, the angels filled the sky and said, "Glory to God in the highest." That means "Praise God who is way up high in heaven." Each of us will get a turn to praise God for something wonderful He has done. Then we will all say, "Glory to God in the highest." Let's see how high we can bounce our balloon of praise.**

Directions:

1. Children stand or sit in a circle holding the edges of the blanket.
2. Place a balloon (or ball) in the center of the blanket.
3. Choose a child to praise God. Ask the child to finish the sentence: **"God, I praise you for_____."**
4. Lead the children in saying, **"Glory to God in the highest!"** and then have them quickly raise the blanket to toss the balloon into the air.
5. Play until every child has a turn.

THE WAY (GAME OPTIONS) *continued...*

GAME: WHERE IS BABY JESUS?

Purpose: The star's light (flashlight) helps children find the hidden baby.

Supplies: Flashlight, small baby doll or picture of baby Jesus

The Bible says the star appeared over the place where baby Jesus lay in Bethlehem. Let's pretend we are following the star's light to find baby Jesus.

Directions:

1. Choose a child to hide the baby doll (or picture of a baby).
2. The other children close their eyes as the teacher assists that child in hiding the baby doll.
3. Choose a child to find the baby doll.
4. Point the light around the room to guide the child in the search for the hidden baby doll.
5. After the child finds the baby doll, assist that child in hiding it in a new place.
6. Repeat the game until every child has a turn.

GAME: GOOD NEWS MUSICAL CHAIRS

Purpose: This version of Musical Chairs familiarizes children with the Unit 10 Bible Memory Verse.

Supplies: Unit 10 Bible Memory Verse Song "I Bring You Good News," CD player, chair for each child

Prepare: Set chairs back-to-back in a row.

Teacher Tip: In this version of musical chairs, no chair is removed and all the children remain in the game. Leave one or more spaces at the end of the row of chairs for any children in wheelchairs. Encourage quick listening and affirm those who are the first to hear the music stop and are seated.

To practice our Bible Memory Verse Song, let's play Good News Musical Chairs.

Directions:

1. As the Bible Memory Verse Song plays, children march around the row of chairs and sing.
2. The teacher stops the music at different times during the song.
3. When the music stops, children find the nearest chair and sit immediately.

GAME: SCENES FROM HIGH SEAS ADVENTURES

Purpose: To learn applications of the Unit 10 Bible stories, older children act out the High Seas Adventures scripts.

Supplies: High Seas Adventures scripts for Lessons 48, 49, 50, 51, 52

Directions:

1. Choose the script that corresponds with today's Bible story.
2. Assign each child a character name and improvise so all the children can be their favorite character, a new character, or just take turns being the same character.
3. Act it out!

THE WAY (GAME OPTIONS) *continued...*

GAME: ACT IT OUT

Purpose: To help learn the Unit 10 stories, children act them out in costumes or with stick puppets.

Supplies: Bible times clothing or stick puppets of Gabriel, Zechariah, Mary, Joseph, baby Jesus, shepherds, wise men, star

Optional: Children can wear costumes and act out the story or they can hold craft sticks with the story characters attached. You may choose one or more stories.

Directions: With each phrase, the teacher says phrase and acts it out with hand motions, then repeats the same phrase and motions with the children.

ADVENT 1: GABRIEL VISITS ZECHARIAH

- **God sent the angel to Zechariah one day,** (Connect fingers overhead, as a halo.)
- **“Your prayer has been answered. Do not be afraid.** (Make praying hands.)
- **Your wife is old, but will soon have a baby boy.** (Rock baby in arms.)
- **You will name him John and he will bring you great joy.** (Make a happy face.)
- **He will make hearts ready to meet God’s Son.** (Place hands on heart.)
- **He will prepare the way when Jesus comes.”** (Point to heaven.)
- **But Zechariah did not believe this news at first.** (Shake head no.)
- **So the angel Gabriel said, “You will speak no more words.”** (Cup hand over mouth.)
- **So Zechariah spoke not, not a word could he say,** (Place index finger over lips.)
- **Until the baby was born and given John as a name.** (Rock baby in arms.)
- **Then his mouth was opened and his words came out,** (Move mouth, as if speaking.)
- **And his very first words praised God out loud!** (Palms up, as if praising God.)

ADVENT 2: GABRIEL AND MARY

- **Mary was a teenager, good and kind.** (Thumbs up, as sign of approval.)
- **One day she saw an angel bright.** (Hand on forehead to shade eyes from bright light.)
- **The angel Gabriel said, “The Lord is with you.”** (Motions for “The Lord is with you.”)
- **Mary was surprised. She wondered what to do.** (Palms up, looking surprised.)
- **But Gabriel said, “Do not be afraid.** (Index finger wags to express “no.”)
- **The Lord sent me to you this day.** (Point to self.)
- **The Lord is very pleased with you.** (Thumbs up, as sign of approval.)
- **He’s giving you His Son; here is what to do.** (Point, as if teaching.)
- **Name Him Jesus when He is born.** (Rock baby in arms.)
- **He will be King forever more.”** (Hold imaginary crown on head.)

ADVENT 3: JESUS IS BORN

- **Mary and Joseph traveled to Bethlehem town.** (Walk in place.)
- **They went there for it was Joseph’s hometown.** (Point as in stating a fact.)
- **They arrived after traveling for a very long while.** (Look at wrist watch.)
- **Soon it was time to have Mary’s first child.** (Rub belly.)

- **He was born in a manger in Bethlehem,** (Rock baby in arms.)
- **For there was no room for them in the inn.** (Shake head no.)
- **Mary wrapped baby Jesus in swaddling clothes,** (Rock baby in arms.)
- **And lay Him in the manger—the place that God chose.** (Point to heaven.)

THE WAY (GAME OPTIONS) *continued...*

ADVENT 4: AN ANGEL VISITS THE SHEPHERDS

- **The shepherds were out in the fields** (Fold arms.)
- **Watching over their sheep at night.** (Hand across brow, searching.)
- **An angel of the Lord appeared;** (Raise arms as wings.)
- **It was a surprising sight!** (Look surprised.)

- **“Do not be afraid,” the angel said,** (Shake head.)
- **“For I bring you good news.** (Point to self.)
- **Today in the town of Bethlehem** (Point toward a direction.)
- **A Savior was born for you.** (Point to others.)

- **“You will find Him in a manger;** (Point to the ground.)
- **The baby wrapped in cloth.** (Rock baby in arms.)
- **It is good news for all people,** (Thumbs up.)
- **He is come to save us all.”** (Hands on heart.)

- **“Glory to God in the highest,”** (Raise both hands high.)
- **The sky full of angels said.** (Point to the sky.)
- **The shepherds said, “Let’s go and see** (Beckoning gesture.)
- **This baby in Bethlehem!”** (Rock baby in arms.)

FOLLOWING THE STAR

- **When Jesus was born in Bethlehem,** (Rock baby in arms.)
- **The wise men wanted to worship Him.** (Raise palms in worship.)
- **They traveled very, very far.** (Walk in place.)
- **They found Him by following the star.** (Point to the star.)

- **To Bethlehem, it led their way.** (Walk in place.)
- **It stopped at the place where Jesus stayed.** (Stop walking.)
- **The wise men, they were full of joy.** (Smile.)
- **They bowed down and worshiped the little boy.** (Bow head and fold hands in prayer.)

- **Their treasures to Jesus they did bring.** (Hide imaginary treasure in hand.)
- **They brought Him gifts fit for a king.** (Open hand to show the treasure.)
- **Incense, myrrh and gold they gave** (Make giving gesture.)
- **For He was the King who came to save.** (Point up to heaven.)

THE WAY (GAME OPTIONS) *continued...*



When only 5 minutes remain, begin this segment.

FINAL FIVE MINUTES

PICTURE SCHEDULE: COLORING TIME

WELCOME > WORSHIP > BIBLE > CRAFT > PRAYER > SNACK > GAMES > COLORING > GOING HOME

Choose a child to remove the GAMES picture card and place it in the FINISHED envelope. **We have finished our Game Time. Now, is our time for coloring the picture of today's story.**

COMPLETED CRAFT: Take home your "Baby Jesus Ornament" craft. You may hang it in your home or attach it to the robe of the angel you made two weeks ago. Tell someone how Jesus was born in a manger in Bethlehem.

DAILY WAY (ADAPTATION FOR CHILDREN WITH DISABILITIES): Distribute this version of the Daily Way, if available. **Show the Daily Way to your family. Talk about the difference between a manger and a baby basket or crib.**

COLOR THIS STORY: "Jesus Is Born." Discuss the Bible story and play the Unit 10 Bible Memory Verse Song "I Bring You Good News" as the children color.

As coloring is completed or parents arrive:

PICTURE SCHEDULE: GOING HOME

WELCOME > WORSHIP > BIBLE > CRAFT > PRAYER > SNACK > GAMES > COLORING > GOING HOME

Choose a child to remove the COLORING picture card and place it in the FINISHED envelope. **We have finished our Coloring Time. Now, it is time for Going Home.**

THE DAILY WAY

Unit 10, Lesson 50: Advent 3—Jesus Is Born

PONDER! To celebrate the coming of Jesus as a family, light candles on your Advent wreath (a circle of greenery and four candles). This week, gather your family to light three candles. As you light candle number three, the Bethlehem candle, read Luke 2:1-7. Ask your parent what it was like when you were born or when you first came home to your family.

PRAY! Pray this prayer each day this week: "Lord, thank You for coming near to everyone in Bethlehem. Thank You for leaving heaven and being born in a manger. Amen."

PLAY! Travel with your family around your neighborhood and sing "Away in a Manger" or another favorite Christmas carol. As you walk, imagine the journey Mary and Joseph took to Bethlehem.

Unit 10 Bible Memory Verse: Luke 2:14a

"Glory to God in the highest."

Unit 10 Bible Memory Challenge Verse:

"I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people. Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; He is Christ the Lord. Glory to God in the highest." Luke 2:10b, 11, 14a