



Advent 2: Naming the King

Lesson Aim: To know Jesus is the name of God's Son, our King.

THE WORSHIP

Who God Is: The King Who Came to Us

THE WORD

Bible Story: Matthew 1:18, 20-21

What He Has Done: God sent the angel to tell Joseph to name the baby Jesus.

THE WAY

"God so loved the world that He gave His one and only Son." John 3:16a

Unit 10: The King Who Came to Us			
	Bible Story	What He Has Done	Lesson Aim
48	Advent 1: Announcing the King, Luke 1:26-33	God sent the angel Gabriel to Mary.	To know God sent His Son as our King.
49	Advent 2: Naming the King, Matthew 1:18, 20-21	God sent the angel to tell Joseph to name the baby Jesus.	To know Jesus is the name of God's Son, our King.
50	Advent 3: Birthplace of the King, Luke 2:1-7	God chose Bethlehem as the birthplace of King Jesus.	To know Jesus was born in a manger in Bethlehem.
51	Advent 4: Worshiping The King, Luke 2:8-20	God led the shepherds to see and worship King Jesus.	To praise God for sending King Jesus to us.
52	Giving to the King: The Wise Men, Matthew 2:1-2, 9-11	God showed baby Jesus to the wise men.	To know we can give our treasures to Jesus.

TEACHER'S ENCOURAGEMENT

This week, read Psalm 98. Please join us in praying, "Thank You, Lord, for coming to save us. Fill us with Your Holy Spirit so each child might understand why You came and receive the gift of salvation in Your perfect timing. Amen."

WHAT ABOUT SANTA? Many cultures incorporate the story of Saint Nicholas (Santa Claus) into their family traditions at Christmas. Many young children are very excited about this tradition. To honor all parents, our role as Bible teachers is not to address (validate or invalidate) their family traditions, but to redirect their focus to celebrate the gift of God's Son.



**THE WORSHIP
THE WORD &
THE WAY**

Segment	Minutes	Activity	Supplies
THE WELCOME	Up to 15	Welcome	Treasure chest, stamp or sticker of the letter "J"
		Coloring Center: Special Names	Coloring pages of Joseph and the angel, crayons or markers
		Play-Dough Center: A Family that Cares	Play-dough, Christmas cookie cutters, play-dough tools
		Bubble Center: Bubbling with Joy	Bubble solution, bubble wand
	Nativity Center: Act It Out!	Nativity set	
	Up to 5	Prepare for Worship	None
THE WORSHIP	Up to 20	Worship Sheet music and recordings for Bible Memory Verse Songs available at ResourceWell.org. Additional Song Suggestions: "Away in a Manger" "Go Tell It on the Mountain" "Joy to the World" "Silent Night" Additional Supplies: Advent wreath (See GOT TIME?)	Praise music, optional: musical instruments Unit 10 Bible Memory Verse Song: "His One and Only Son" Other Bible Memory Verse Song Suggestions: "Give Thanks to the Lord" "I Bring You Good News" "Praise Time: Love the Lord Your God"
		Offering	Baskets
		Worship Illustration	<i>The Adventures of Delbert and Lello</i> puppet script or storybook: Kings & Kingdoms Unit 10, Lesson 49
THE WORD	Up to 10	Watch the Word: Matthew 1:18, 20-21	Teacher's Bible with bookmark at Matthew 1:20 Visual: Picture of the Bible story, gift bag or box, large paper letter J or another J-shaped item
THE WAY	Up to 25	Craft: Joseph Puppet	Plastic spoon or craft stick, felt, glue, crayons or markers, optional: label, yarn or string, tape
		Game: Who Is this King?	Baby doll wrapped in a blanket, optional: Bible times costumes
		Game: "A Special Name" Ball Roll	Soft ball for rolling
	Snack: "J" Is for Jesus	Any snack shaped like the letter "J," such as upside down candy canes or cookies with "J" written in icing	
	Final 5	Final Five	Ponder, Pray & Play for 2-3's: Unit 10, Lesson 49
GOT TIME?	Up to 10	Say & Do: Matthew 1:18, 20-21	None
	Up to 15	Craft: Advent Crown Wreath	See craft for supplies.
	Up to 10	Game: Hop Around the World	Globe or picture of the world
	Up to 10	Game: I Bring You Good News!	None
	Up to 10	Story Time	Any story about the events surrounding Jesus' birth

RESOURCES: Supplemental materials are available at ResourceWell.org.



The King who came to us

THE WELCOME

WELCOME

Welcome each child as they arrive. **Hello _____.** I'm glad you are here! **Come open the Treasure Chest to find today's treasure.** Child unlocks the Treasure Chest to receive a stamp or sticker of the letter "J." **The name Jesus begins with the letter "J."** **Let this letter "J" help you remember Joseph named the baby Jesus.**

Teacher's Note: These activity centers are designed to reinforce the lesson through hands-on learning experiences either individually or in small groups with the guidance of the teacher. Choose the Bible Activity Centers that best suit the children in your class. Set up the activity centers around the room before children arrive. Allow children to move freely among them.

COLORING CENTER: SPECIAL NAMES

SUPPLIES

Coloring pages of Joseph and the angel, crayons or markers

DO

Children color their picture as they talk about today's story.

TALK ABOUT

Tell me what you see in the picture. (man sleeping, angel.) **The man you see is Joseph, Jesus' father. In a dream, an angel told Joseph he would soon be a father. He told Joseph to name the baby Jesus. We each have a special name that someone chose just for us. Let's see if we can remember each other's names.** Ask each child the name of one or more children in the class.

PLAY-DOUGH CENTER: A FAMILY THAT CARES

SUPPLIES

Play-dough, Christmas cookie cutters, play-dough tools

DO

Children play with the play-dough while talking about families. Encourage children to make baby Jesus with the play-dough.

TALK ABOUT

God gave baby Jesus a family to take care of Him. Mary and Joseph were Jesus' parents. God has given you a family, too. Who are the people in your family? (Children respond.) **What do they do to take care of you?** (Children respond.) **What can you do to take care of people in your family?** (Children respond.)

THE WELCOME *continued...*

BUBBLE CENTER: BUBBLING WITH JOY

SUPPLIES

Bubble solution, bubble wand

DO

Teacher or helper blows bubbles. Each time a child pops a bubble, encourage them to say, "Jesus is coming!"

TALK ABOUT

Last time, we learned an angel told a young woman Mary she would have a baby boy. This time, we will hear how an angel told Joseph about the birth of baby Jesus. The angel told Mary and Joseph Jesus was coming. We can tell the people we know Jesus is coming. Let's practice now. Each time you pop a bubble, say "Jesus is coming!"

NATIVITY CENTER: ACT IT OUT!

SUPPLIES

Nativity set

DO & TALK ABOUT

Children use the nativity set to act out the story as you tell it using the points below.

- **An angel told Mary about Jesus' birth.**
- **Then, an angel told Joseph to name the baby Jesus.**
- **Mary and Joseph traveled to Bethlehem.**
- **There was no room for them in the inn so they stayed in a stable.**
- **The stable was the home for many animals.**
- **Baby Jesus was born in the stable.**
- **Angels told the shepherds about baby Jesus.**
- **The shepherds came to see the baby.**
- **The wise men followed a star and traveled from far away to see the baby Jesus.**

PREPARE FOR WORSHIP

It's time for Praise Time. Let's sing a "Clean Up Song" as we put things away. Praise children as they help clean.

**Clean up! Clean up! Everybody, everywhere!
Clean up! Clean up! Everybody do your share!**

BIBLE MEMORY VERSE SIGN LANGUAGE

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

"God	Open right hand (fingers together and palm facing left) moves upward and then down the center of the face with fingers facing up.
so loved	Fists closed, both arms move to the body and cross in front of the chest.
the world	Both W-handshapes (Extend middle three fingers, touch pinky to thumb) circle around each other.
that He gave His	(gave) With thumb touching the fingers, the hand moves forward away from body.
one and only Son."	(Son) The closed fist touches the forehead, then the hand opens as it comes down and is cradled in the opposite arm (palm open).
John 3:16a	Hold hands open, as if holding a Bible.

Adding sign language or motions to the Bible Memory Verse helps children recall what they are learning.



The King who came to us

THE WORSHIP

Supplies: Christmas praise music, optional: musical instruments, Advent wreath (Consider battery powered candles for safety purposes. Other options are suggested in the GOT TIME? Advent Crown Wreath craft.)

Teacher Tip: To help children identify time set aside for worship, designate a special corner or area for singing, collecting offering, and watching the worship illustration. Play "Praise Time: Love the Lord Your God" as children move to that designated area.



Today, we celebrate a very special baby. Who can tell me the baby's name? (Jesus.) **Let's thank God for sending baby Jesus to earth.** Have the children bow their heads and close their eyes. **Dear God, thank You for loving us so much that You sent Your Son Jesus to earth as a baby. We love You, God. Amen.**



God wants us to tell everyone about Jesus. Sing: "Go Tell It on the Mountain" **Let's give thanks to God by giving our offering.** Sing: "Give Thanks to the Lord" while collecting the offering.



The Lighting of the Christmas Candles: Joseph's Candle

Advent Wreath: 4 candles set in a wreath

We light the Christmas candles to get our hearts ready to celebrate Christmas. Last time, we lit Mary's candle. Today, we light Joseph's Candle. Choose one child to assist in lighting the second of the four candles on the Advent Wreath. **We light this candle to remember Joseph gave the name Jesus to God's Son.**



Let's see what Ranger Ryan knows about King Jesus. Perform *The Adventures of Delbert and Lello* puppet script or read storybook: Kings & Kingdoms Unit 10, Lesson 49.



How much does God love us? (Children respond.) **Does He love us this much?** Hold your hands a little ways apart. **Does He love us this much?** (Separate your hands more.) **Does He love us this much?** Stretch your arms as far apart as you can. **God loves you even more than that. Our Bible Memory Verse tells us how much God loves us.** Practice together.

"God	Open right hand (fingers together and palm facing left) moves upward and then down the center of the face with fingers facing up.
so loved	Fists closed, both arms move to the body and cross in front of the chest.
the world	Both W-handshapes (Extend middle three fingers, touch pinky to thumb) circle around each other.
that He gave His	(gave) With the thumb touching the fingers, the hand moves forward away from the body.
one and only Son."	(Son) The closed fist touches the forehead, then the hand opens as it comes down and is cradled in the opposite arm (palm open).
John 3:16a	Hold hands open, as if holding a Bible.



God loves us very much. Sing: "His One and Only Son."



The angel and Joseph

THE WORD

Supplies: Teacher's Bible with bookmark at Matthew 1:20, picture of the Bible story, gift bag or box, large paper letter J or another J-shaped item

Before we begin our Bible Time, let's say our Classroom Promise with the motions.

With my eyes on my teacher;	Point to eyes.
My mouth quiet as can be,	Place index finger over mouth as quiet sign.
I will listen to hear,	Cup hand around ear.
How God loves you and me.	Hug self, point to others, and then self.

Let's reach deep in our pockets and pull out our listening ears. Reach in your pocket and cup your hands behind your ears as if listening.

Last week, we learned an angel told Mary she would have a very special baby. Do you remember who that baby was? (Jesus.) Today, we will hear about the angel who came to Jesus' father Joseph. I've placed something in this bag to help us remember our story today. Pull out the letter J from the bag and show it to the children. **The name Jesus starts with the letter J. Do any of your names start with the letter J?** Point out any children whose name begins with J. **Let's remember our story when we see the letter J.** Handle the Bible as a special treasure, leaving it open to Matthew 1:20.



WATCH THE WORD: MATTHEW 1:18, 20-21

Read the story below or retell the passage in your own words. To illustrate the story, show a picture of the Bible story from a children's Bible, the coloring page, or other source.

- **An angel told Joseph in his dream,**
- **"Joseph, do not be afraid.**
- **The Holy Spirit gave Mary a child.**
- **Keep the wedding plans you've made."**

- **The angel said, "Take Mary as your wife.**
- **The babe inside her is God's Son.**
- **When He is born, name Him Jesus.**
- **For He will save everyone."**

Who talked to Joseph in his dream? (The angel.) Joseph followed the angel's directions and named the baby Jesus. Jesus is God's Son. He is the King of heaven and earth. Who is our King? (Jesus!)



Who is Jesus?

THE WAY

Teacher Tip: Craft and games can be presented at the same time in different areas or one at a time depending on class size and teaching style.

CRAFT: JOSEPH PUPPET

Purpose: To remind the children of the story of Joseph and the angel.

Supplies: Plastic spoon or craft stick, felt, glue, crayons or markers, optional: label, yarn or string, tape

Prepare: From felt, cut a large triangle for Joseph's robe and a small triangle for Joseph's beard. On Joseph's robe or on a label, print:

**Joseph named Jesus.
Matthew 1:1-25**

Optional: To make a hanging ornament, cut a 7-inch length of yarn. Knot the yarn to make a loop. Tape the loop to the back of Joseph's head.

Directions:

1. Draw eyes and mouth on the spoon or craft stick for Joseph's face.
2. Glue the small felt triangle under the mouth for Joseph's beard.
3. Glue the large felt triangle on the stick for Joseph's robe.
4. Optional: Attach the label to Joseph's robe.

Craft Discussion:

- **What was Joseph doing when the angel talked to him?** (Dreaming.)
- **What did the angel tell Joseph to name the baby?** (Jesus.)
- **What did baby Jesus grow up to be?** (King of heaven and earth.)
- **Who is our King?** (Jesus.)

THE WAY *continued...*

GAME: WHO IS THIS KING?

Purpose: Children will act out the story of Joseph and the angel found in Matthew 18, 20-21.

Supplies: Baby doll wrapped in a blanket, optional: Bible times costumes

The angel talked to Joseph in a dream. He told Joseph to name the baby Jesus. Let's act out the story of the naming of King Jesus!

Directions:

1. Choose three children to be Joseph, Mary, and the angel.
2. Mary holds the baby doll on one side of the room.
3. Joseph pretends to sleep on the other side of the room.
4. The remaining children sit between Mary and Joseph.
5. The angel wakes Joseph and says, **"Name Him Jesus."**
6. All the children ask Joseph, **"Who is this King?"**
7. Joseph walks over to Mary and the baby and says, **"His name is Jesus."**
8. Play several more times, letting other children take turns in different roles.

GAME: "A SPECIAL NAME" BALL ROLL

Purpose: Children will realize they were given a special name, just like Jesus.

Supplies: Soft ball for rolling

The angel told Joseph to name the baby Jesus. The angel said Jesus would grow up to save His people. Your family gave you a special name. God has a special job for you, too!

Directions:

1. Sit in a circle with the children.
2. Roll the ball to a child.
3. When the child catches the ball, ask:
"What is your name?" (Child responds.)
"What do you want to be when you grow up?" (Child responds.)
4. Child rolls the ball back to you.
5. Repeat the game with each child.

THE WAY *continued...*

SNACK: "J" IS FOR JESUS

Purpose: Children enjoy a snack as they think about the name of Jesus.

Snack Suggestion: Any snack shaped like the letter "J," such as upside down candy canes or cookies with "J" written in icing

What is the first letter in Jesus' name? ("J.") Our snack is shaped like the letter "J" to remind us that God told Joseph what to name baby Jesus.

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.
 - **What letter does your name start with?** (Children respond.) Help those who are unsure.
 - **Who is our King?** (Jesus.) **That's right; Jesus grew up to be our King!**



When only 5 minutes remain, begin this segment.

FINAL FIVE MINUTES

BIBLE MEMORY VERSE

Gather children in a circle sitting or standing and practice the words and motions.

"God	Open right hand (fingers together and palm facing left) moves upward and then down the center of the face with fingers facing up.
so loved	Fists closed, both arms move to the body and cross in front of the chest.
the world	Both W-handshapes (Extend middle three fingers, touch pinky to thumb) circle around each other.
that He gave His	(gave) With the thumb touching the fingers, the hand moves forward away from the body.
one and only Son."	(Son) The closed fist touches the forehead, then the hand opens as it comes down and is cradled in the opposite arm (palm open).
John 3:16a	Hold hands open, as if holding a Bible.

PRAY

Let's pray together. Say a closing prayer with the children.

PLAY

Allow children to play with selected toys or centers or choose a book to read to them.

DISMISSAL

Have children take home their coloring page, craft, and a copy of the Ponder, Pray & Play for 2-3's.



If time remains, choose from the connected activities below.

GOT TIME?

SAY & DO: MATTHEW 1:18, 20-21

Purpose: This pantomime version of the Bible Story helps children remember the story details.

Supplies: None

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

- **An angel told Joseph in his dream,** (Close eyes and rest head on hands.)
- **“Joseph, do not be afraid.** (Shake head no.)
- **The Holy Spirit gave Mary a child.** (Point to heaven.)
- **Keep the wedding plans you’ve made.”** (Put thumbs up in approval.)

- **The angel said, “Take Mary as your wife.** (Point to wedding ring finger.)
- **The babe inside her is God’s Son.** (Point to tummy.)
- **When He is born, name Him Jesus.** (Rock baby in arms.)
- **For He will save everyone.”** (Spread arms apart to welcome everyone.)

CRAFT: ADVENT CROWN WREATH

Purpose: Children work together to create an Advent crown wreath.

Supplies: Poster board or sturdy paper, craft jewels or costume jewelry, gold paint (or gold foil, gold wrapping paper, etc.), four tall gold candles, four candleholders, one gold dinner plate or plate wrapped in gold foil or paper, stapler, glue

Prepare: Cut a 3-inch x 24-inch strip of poster board. Paint the poster board strip gold. Let it dry. Staple the ends to create a circle (crown) shape.

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 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 King Jesus. Each week we light a new candle. Our Advent wreath is in the shape of a crown to remind us Jesus is the King of kings. The circle shape of the crown which has no beginning and no end reminds us of the promise of a never ending life forever with God.

Directions:

1. Decorate the circle (crown) with craft jewels or costume jewelry.
2. Place the crown on a gold dinner plate or plate wrapped in gold foil or paper.
3. Place the four gold candles in holders evenly along the inner rim of crown.

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

GOT TIME? *continued...*



BIBLE MEMORY VERSE ACTIVITIES

“God so loved the world that He gave His one and only Son.” John 3:16a

GAME: HOP AROUND THE WORLD

Purpose: To help children memorize and review the Unit 10 Bible Memory Verse.

Supplies: Globe or picture of the world

Our Bible Memory Verse says, “God so loved the world that He gave His one and only Son.” Who is God’s one and only Son? (King Jesus.) God loves everyone in the world very much! That’s why He gave King Jesus to everyone! Let’s hop around the world as we say our Bible Memory Verse.

Directions:

1. Place the globe or picture of the world in the center of the play area.
2. Have the children line up behind you.
3. As you say the Bible Memory Verse, lead the children in hopping around the globe or picture of the world.
4. Continue hopping around the world until you finish the Bible Memory Verse.
5. Play as often as you like. Allow the children to take turns leading the line.

GAME: I BRING YOU GOOD NEWS!

Purpose: To help children memorize and review the Unit 10 Bible Memory Verse.

Supplies: None

Let’s practice our Bible Memory Verse.

Directions:

1. Children stand or sit in a circle holding their closed hands to their mouths to make a “trumpet.”
2. Have children repeat the verse after you: **“God so loved the world that He gave His one and only Son.”**
3. Once the children are comfortable saying the verse, lead the children in saying the verse in different ways such as slowly, quickly, quietly, or loudly. You can also change whether they are sitting, standing, or slowly rising or sitting as they say the verse.
4. Play as often as you like.

GOT TIME? *continued...*



STORY TIME

Gather the children and read a favorite story. This can be a Bible Story, a chapter from *The Adventures of Delbert & Lello*, or a story about the events surrounding Jesus' birth.

PONDER, PRAY & PLAY

Unit 10, Lesson 49 - Advent 2: Naming the King

PONDER! Gather your family to light Joseph's Candle, the second candle on your Advent Crown Wreath. (Create wreath using gold foil for a crown. Place four candles in holders around the inner rim. Place a fifth candle as the Christ Candle in a center holder.) Read Matthew 1:18, 20-21 and sing "Away in a Manger."

PRAY! Pray this prayer each day this week: "Lord, thank You for letting Joseph name Your Son Jesus. Help us worship Jesus as our King. Amen."

PLAY! Joseph must have felt very special to give baby Jesus His name! Ask your family about who gave your name to you. Talk about why and how every family member's name was chosen.

BIBLE MEMORY VERSE

"God

Open right hand (fingers together and palm facing left) moves upward and then down the center of the face with fingers facing up.

**so loved
the world**

Fists closed, both arms move to the body and cross in front of the chest.

Both W-handshapes (Extend middle three fingers, touch pinky to thumb) circle around each other.

that He gave His

(gave) With the thumb touching the fingers, the hand moves forward away from the body.

one and only Son."

(Son) The closed fist touches the forehead, then the hand opens as it comes down and is cradled in the opposite arm (palm open).

John 3:16a

Hold hands open, as if holding a Bible.