

CITY LG – December 14 - 15, 2024

Today's Bible Story: Born to Save (Jesus Is Born) • *Luke 2:1-7*

Today's Bottom Line: Celebrate because God sent a Savior.

Monthly Memory Verse: "[Mary] is going to have a son. You must give him the name Jesus. That's because he will save his people from their sins." Matthew 1:21 (*NirV*)

Monthly Virtue: Christmas—Celebrating Jesus, God's greatest gift

WORSHIP

Oh What a Glorious Night

Silent Night

SLIDE: Theme

Hi, everyone! I just LOVE this time of year! There are so many fun Christmas songs. Do you have a favorite Christmas song? When I count to three, everybody say your favorite! One, two, three! (*Pause for response.*) Those are some great choices. I'd love to make a playlist with all of them.

I love so many things about Christmastime. I'd like to know what your favorite things about this time of year are. Let's stand up and play a game called "Christmas This or That." Watch this video which will give you two choices. Shout out your favorite of the two. Ready? Let's go!

VIDEO: Christmas This or That

There's so much to celebrate at Christmastime, and it's all about the birth of Jesus, God's Son.

We're celebrating how Jesus was born in Bethlehem. But as you might remember, God's plan to send Jesus started long before that. God created the world and everything in it. And when people turned away from God, the world was broken. But God had a plan to make it all right again. Through the words of prophets like Isaiah, God promised to one day send a Savior.

Over a period of hundreds of years, God's people waited for the Savior to come. One day, an angel appeared to a young woman named Mary. The angel told Mary that she would have a baby . . . and that the baby would be God's Son.

Let's check out the Story Lab!

VIDEO: Bible Story (9:21)

We celebrate Christmas because God sent Jesus to be our Savior. Jesus was born in a really unexpected place. And He brought hope, joy, and love to the whole world!

Here's what we get to do at Christmastime:

VIDEO: Bottom Line

SLIDE: Bottom Line

Celebrate because God sent a Savior.

SLIDE: theme

When we think about the way God sent Jesus, it can bring us great joy! We can celebrate how Jesus came to live with us as a baby, and how Jesus grew up to show us how to love God and love others. Jesus eventually gave up His life for us so we could live forever with God.

When we choose to love and follow Jesus, God sends the Holy Spirit to live with us. Joy comes when we allow the Spirit to work in and through us. A great way to find joy is to find ways to celebrate, even when things don't go the way you expected. That's something that stays with us, whether it's Christmastime or ANYtime.

We can celebrate that God loves us so much more than we can ever imagine. God loved us enough to send Jesus for us! Let's pray.

Dear God, thank You for loving us so much that You sent Jesus to be our Savior. We can see how Jesus was born in an unexpected way . . . but it was all part of Your good plan. As we celebrate during this season, help us remember what Jesus came to do for us. We're thankful for the way Jesus showed us what You are like and how to live. And we're thankful for the way Jesus made a way for us to have a relationship with You that will last forever. Thank You for the truth that we can trust You no matter what. We love You, and we pray these things in Jesus' name. Amen.