

LUKE 2 - JESUS WAS BORN

KIDS' LIFEGROUP GUIDE

WEEK: 3/8/20 - 3/14/20

OVERVIEW:

- **Part 1:** Catch Up On Life (15 Minutes)
- **Part 2:** Kidtown Lesson Review (15 Minutes)
- **Part 3:** Reflection (15 Minutes)
 - Optional - Part 3a: Lesson Activity (10 Minutes)
 - Optional - Part 3b: Snack (5 Minutes)
 - Optional - Part 3c: Sing (5 Minutes)
- **Part 4:** Prayer Time! (20 Minutes)

PART 1: CATCH UP ON LIFE (15 minutes)

Setting: Sit in a circle with kids and adults interspersed! Adults sitting amongst the kids helps everyone engage and pay attention. Parents - you are always responsible for your kids, but you're also looking to engage with other kids in your group.

- *Leader Note: If your group eats dinner with your kids, this is the best part of the guide to do together while you eat. Add 15 minutes for everyone to get their plates and start eating. Then shift into intentional conversation as the kids are starting to finish their food.*

Vision: God calls the church -- and our LifeGroup -- to be family! Because of this, we want our kids to know our adults and our adults to know our kids. The best way to get to know each other is to ask each other questions and tell each other about our lives.

- *Leader note: While you're getting started, have an adult -- or older kid -- read this vision statement. After you've done it for a while, you can ask kids if they remember why we ask each other questions. Help them to remember that God's making us family, so we want to get to know each other.*

Questions:

- 1.) What was your high and low from the week?
- 2.) **Kids Pick!** Let each kid ask the adults in the group one question.
 - Click [here](#) for a bank of questions for Kids to ask Adults if they're having a hard time thinking of any.
- 3.) **Adults Pick!** Have each adult ask the kids in the group one question.
 - Click [here](#) for a bank of questions for Adults to ask Kids if they're having a hard time thinking of any.

PART 2: KIDTOWN LESSON REVIEW (15 minutes)

Vision: God uses the Bible to show Himself to us. He also uses it to help us love Him and others better. We don't only want to learn *about* the Bible; we're also called to apply it to our lives -- to change the way we think (Head), what we love and value (Heart) and what we do (Hands).

- *Leader note: While you're getting started, have an adult -- or older kid -- read this vision statement. After you've done it for a while, ask kids if they remember why we study the Bible.*

Lesson: Jesus Was Born

Bible Passage: Luke 2

REVIEW:

- 1.) **Kids what do you remember from the story you learned about on Sunday?** (Pause and let them think of what they can remember.)
- 2.) **Can anyone remember the main characters?**
 - God/Jesus! (*Leader Note: Almost always a right answer. Helps reinforce that the entire Bible is about God and points forward to Jesus*)
 - Mary, Joseph, Angels, Shepherds
- 3.) **Ok, does anyone remember any of the story points?**
 - Story Point #1: The Emperor of Rome announced a census.
 - Story Point #2: Mary and Joseph went to Bethlehem.
 - Story Point #3: Angels appeared to some shepherds.
 - Story Point #4: The shepherds told everyone about Jesus.
- 4.) **Awesome! And can anyone remember how this story connected to Jesus?**
 - Christ Connection: Jesus came to rescue people from sin!

Transition: That was awesome! Y'all did a great job remembering. Ok let's watch the video and see if we remember anything we forgot or notice anything new this time.

WATCH THE VIDEO STORY:

Click [here](#) to watch the Gospel Project Video Story.

TALK THROUGH THE STORY POINTS:

Leader Note: If your kids are younger, it helps to give them journals. For each question, have them write their answers first and then go around the circle and share.

Leader Note: Say each story point and have the kids repeat it.

Story Point #1: The Emperor of Rome announced a census.

- Read: Luke 2:1
 - Question: Who was the emperor of Rome at the time? *Caesar Augustus*
 - Question: What is a census? *A census is when you count up all the people living in a place.*
- Read: Luke 2:3
 - Teach: When we have a census now, in the United States, the government mails out letters and people travel around to talk to each person and make a count of people. But back then, there wasn't a good way to do that. So, when they took a census, everyone would travel to the town where their extended family was from to be counted there.

PART 2: KIDTOWN LESSON REVIEW (CONTINUED)

Story Point #2: Mary and Joseph went to Bethlehem.

- Read: Luke 2:4-7
 - Question: What happened to Mary when they got to Bethlehem? *It was time for her to have her baby!*
 - Question: Where did Mary and Joseph stay in Bethlehem? *In a place where animals were kept, because there were so many people in Bethlehem for the census.*
 - Question: What do you think that was like?! Nice and clean or not so much?
- Read: Micah 5:2
 - Teach: In this verse, the prophet Micah is saying that the Messiah would be born in Bethlehem, and he said that hundreds of years before Jesus was born. So, God knew waaaaay back then that Jesus would be born in Bethlehem, and that happened because of this census!

Story Point #3: Angels appeared to some shepherds.

- Read: Luke 2:11-12
 - Question: What did the angels say about the baby? *That he would be wrapped in cloths and lying in a manger.*
 - Teach: A manger is something that animals would eat their food out of.
- Teach: Shepherds weren't the most important people back then, but the angels appeared to them first to say that Jesus was born.
 - Question: Why do you think the angels told lowly shepherds to be the first people to hear about Jesus? *Throughout the Bible, we see that God likes to use the people that others wouldn't expect to do His work.*

Story Point #4: The shepherds told everyone about Jesus.

- Question: Why do you think the shepherds were so excited about this news? *God had promised His people a savior a long, long time ago, when the angels appeared to the shepherds, they told them that that savior was finally here!*
- Question: Why did God promise that Savior? What did people need saving from? *Sin.*

REVIEW THE CHRIST CONNECTION AND APPLY IT:

Christ Connection: Jesus came to rescue people from sin!

- Who does the Bible say has sinned? *Everyone.*
 - Are we able to fix our sin problem on our own? *No.*
 - Who is the only one that can fix our sin problem? *God.*
 - How did God fix our sin problem? *By sending Jesus--to live a perfect life, die on the cross and raise again.*
 - What do we have to do in order to be forgiven of our sin? *Trust and obey Him.*
- Pray: Let's pause right now and thank God for sending Jesus!

Main Application(s): We should celebrate that Jesus came to be our Savior and tell others about this good news.

- Adults first then kids - Do you always feel like you need a Savior? *Sometimes it's easy to feel like we are doing ok on our own, but we all have sin in our lives and need Jesus to be our Savior.*
- Adults first then kids - Is there anyone in your life right now that needs to know about Jesus as Savior? Who? We'll pray for them in a bit.

PRACTICE THE KEY PASSAGE:

Ask any of the kids if they can remember the key passage. Help lead them through it leaving out words and see if they can fill them in.

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was with God in the beginning.

John 1:1-2

PART 3: REFLECTION (10 minutes)

Distribute a sheet of paper to each child or tell them to get their journals. Ask the kids to write about or draw a picture to answer the following questions:

- What does this story teach me about God or about the gospel?
- What does this story teach me about myself?
- What is one thing I need to do in light of this story? (Help the kids think of ways they can grow, how they might pray for help or practical steps of repentance they can take.)

After the kids have had time to write down their reflection questions, go around the circle and share one at a time (kids and adults).

OPTIONAL - PART 3a: LESSON ACTIVITY (10 minutes)

OPTION 1: Find the Baby

Ask boys and girls to cover their eyes while you hide a doll or another toy in the room. Allow children to search until they find it. Alter the game by allowing a child to hide the toy or by adding additional items to be hidden. Recall parts of the Bible story. Remind kids that the angel told the shepherds to go to Bethlehem to find Baby Jesus.

Say • The shepherds were watching the sheep one night when they were surprised by an angel. The angel told them the Savior had been born. The shepherds went to Bethlehem and found the Baby lying in a manger wrapped in cloth. Baby Jesus was born to rescue people from sin, just as God promised. Everyone who heard the shepherd's news was surprised and amazed.

OPTION 2: The Minute Game

Gather the kids together and instruct them to stand up. Challenge them to sit down when they think exactly one minute has elapsed. Use a stopwatch and keep track of who sits closest to a minute without going over. Play additional rounds using different lengths of time.

Say • In that game, we didn't know exactly when a minute would be up, but we had the ability to count seconds to try and come close. Waiting for something can be especially hard if you don't know when it will happen.

Imagine God's people, who had been waiting for thousands of years. They did not know exactly when the Messiah would come, but they knew God would be faithful. When Jesus was born, it was somewhat unexpected. If it hadn't been for the angels proclaiming the news to shepherds, only Mary and Joseph would have even known the Messiah was there! But all that waiting was worth it when Jesus was born to be God's promised Savior.

OPTIONAL - PART 3b: SNACK (5 minutes)

If your group doesn't eat dinner together, now is a great time to stop for a snack break before spending time praying together and talking about living on mission. For Kidtown we keep snacks simple with Goldfish for most kids and Gummy snacks in case a kid has Gluten allergies.

OPTIONAL - PART 3c: SING (5 minutes)

Play one or more of these videos and sing and dance along!

- [Go Tell It On the Mountain](#)
- [The Word Was God](#) (Key Passage Song)

PART 4: PRAYER TIME! (20 minutes)

PRAY FOR EACH OTHER: (10 minutes)

Vision: God calls His people to love each other, pray for each other and help each other carry burdens.

Questions to Ask (pick 1):

- How do you need prayer this week?
- What is one thing you need Jesus to help you with this week?
- What is one way you're hoping Jesus will help you grow this week?

Pray: Invite each kid to write down the other kids' prayer requests. Then have each kid pray for the person on their right!

PRAY FOR JESUS' MISSION: (10 minutes)

Vision: God calls His people to share with others the good news of Jesus. This means that we try to love others with our actions and with our words. We want all our friends to know about Jesus and His great love for them.

Questions to Ask (pick 1):

- What friends or neighbors of yours can we pray for today?
- How can you show God's love this week to someone who might not know Him?
- Who could we invite to do something fun with our LifeGroup friends this month?

Pray: Invite each kid to pray for their friends or someone else's friend to come to know Jesus. Have one adult close out the time, thanking God for how we get to be family together and asking God to bring more people into His family!