



Date: _____
Series: Jesus Comes
Winter Year 2, Lesson 29

Jesus is Born

Take Home Point: *God sends Jesus.

*Repeat this phrase throughout the lesson. Leaders say the phrase and the children repeat it.

Bible Event: Luke 2:1-20

We will help children know:

- Jesus is God's Son.
- Jesus was born in a barn but is still a king.




We will help children feel:

- Secure in knowing that God keeps his promises.
- Excited that Jesus was born.

We will help children do:

- Participate in acting out the Bible Event.
- Eat a snack of animals like the ones in the barn where Jesus was born.
- Make a stick puppet of Baby Jesus in the barn.
- Play a learning game called *What Animal Am I?* and a movement game called *Barnyard Scramble*.
- Take home a copy of *God Talk at Home* to reinforce learning today's Take Home Point: ***God sends Jesus.**

THIS LESSON'S ROADMAP

DESTINATION	PAGE #	DISCOVERIES ON YOUR JOURNEY	SUPPLIES NEEDED
Warm-Up (5-10 minutes)	3	Transition Time	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> toys of your choice
Large Group Opening (5-10 minutes) 	3	Sing (Optional)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> songs of your choice
	3	Puppet Presentation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Bubba puppet
	4	Bible Reading	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> children's picture Bible
Small Group Application (10 minutes—each activity) 	6	Activity 1: Acting Out Bible Event	<i>Activity 1: Bible Event</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> children's picture Bible
	8	Activity 2: Snack	<i>Activity 2: Snack</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> napkins cups of water animal crackers
	9	Activity 3: Craft	<i>Activity 3: Craft</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> large craft stick, one per child double stick tape shredded yellow construction paper packing peanuts, 1 per child permanent marker optional: small piece of material or tissue sticker that says "God sends Jesus" or a permanent marker
	11	Activity 4: Learning Game Movement Game	<i>Activity 4: Games</i>
	11		<i>Learning Game</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> none <i>Movement Game</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> one hula hoop
Large Group Wrap-Up (5-10 minutes) 	13	Review Lesson and Take Home Point	
	13	Pray	
	14	Sing (Optional)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> songs of your choice

Warm-Up (Prior to class and first 10 minutes of the session.)

Young children this age need a time to get acquainted with the new surroundings as they enter the classroom. Provide a variety of calm activities and toys such as blocks, play centers and simple puzzles. These activities create an environment that helps young children let go of Mom and Dad. If necessary, Mom and Dad may play with them for a few minutes and then leave.

Large Group Opening (5-10 minutes)



Purpose: You may use singing as a large group activity and to gather attention. The opening puppet presentation is a quick overview introducing the Bible Event and Take Home Point. Early childhood humor is also used. Bubba often says something silly about elephants. Judy says something silly about pink ponies. Let the children enjoy the "joke" but use it to call attention to the Bible Event.

Singing: Use music of your choice.

Puppet Presentation

Supplies:

- children's picture Bible

Bubba Hears About a King In a Barn

Presenter: Boys and girls, let's call out Bubba.

Kids call out for Bubba: **Bubba...Bubba...Bubba.**

Presenter: Hi, Bubba.

Bubba: Hi everyone. Guess what?

Presenter: What?

Bubba: I get to go to my grandpa's farm today.

Presenter: You do? Wonderful.

Bubba: I can't wait to see the cows.

Presenter: Yes?

Bubba: And the horses.

Presenter: Yes?

Bubba: And the elephants!

Presenter: Elephants! Your grandpa has elephants?

Bubba: Not yet, but I hope he gets some. Maybe I'll have to bring my own.

Presenter: I'm glad you will have a happy time at your grandpa's farm. Did you know we are learning about a barn today?

Bubba: With animals in it?

Presenter: Yes, but it had something even more important than animals. It was where Jesus was born.

Bubba: Really?

Presenter: Yes. Even though Jesus was a king, he was born in a barn. Would you like to hear about it?

Bubba: Sure.

Presenter: See what I am holding? This is the Bible. It is God's word. Everything in the Bible is true. Now I am going to read about our lesson from the Bible. Let's put on our listening ears.

Read the Bible Event from a children's picture Bible.

Presenter: Let's practice the Take Home Point. I'll say it first and you repeat after me. *God sends Jesus. God sends Jesus.

Presenter: Bubba will you help us sing our song of the week?

Bubba: Sure, I love to sing.

Song: to the tune of *Frere Jaques*

Capitalized letters indicate emphasis on that syllable when the rhyme is sung.

GOD sends JE-sus.

GOD sends JE-sus.

YES he DOES.

YES he DOES.

GOD said HE would SEND him.

GOD said HE would SEND him.

GOD loves US.

GOD loves US.

Let's fold our hands and say a prayer. Repeat after me.

Dear God, Dear God,

You are with us. You are with us.

We love you. We love you.

You sent us Jesus. You sent us Jesus.

Thank you, thank you, thank you. Thank you, thank you, thank you.

In Jesus' name. In Jesus' name.

Amen. Amen.

Small Group Application (30-40 minutes)



Purpose: Young children learn best by repetition. Review the Bible Event and practice the Take Home Point as you rotate through the activities.

The shepherd to child ratio for three-year-olds should be one to six or fewer. Divide into groups of six with one shepherd or have a slightly larger group with two shepherds.

Groups rotate from activity to activity. Another option, especially for larger churches, is to provide a leader at each activity table with a shepherd leading a group of up to twelve. The ratio will be maintained at one to six.

Activity 1: Acting Out the Bible Event

Supplies:

- Children's picture Bible

Jesus' Birth: Jesus is Born

Luke 2:1-20

Introduction

Hold up a children's picture Bible.

This is the Bible. It is God's word. Let's act out what it says in the Bible. When you see me do the actions, you do them, too.

Mary and Joseph travel to Bethlehem.

- **Mary and Joseph knew that Jesus was going to be born in their family. They lived in a town named Nazareth but were told to go far away to Bethlehem. I think I can see it there—it's a long way away.** Point to the distance.
- **Let's pretend we are Mary and Joseph and we are on the road together. We're walking a long way and getting tired (walk slower)... and getting more tired (sigh or yawn).**
- **I think we had better stop and sleep for the night.** Pretend to sleep.

Mary and Joseph look for a place to stay.

- **Now, let's get up. We need to walk all day again until we get to the town of Bethlehem.** Pretend to walk.
- **Many days Mary and Joseph walked to Bethlehem. When they got to Bethlehem, it was time for Mary to have the baby.**
- **"Where should we go?" they asked each other. Let's look for a hotel. There's one over here. Let's knock on the door. Knock on something firm like a desk or door.**
- **"We need a place for Mary to have her baby. Is there any room here?" You know what they said? "No room." Shake your head no.**

- **“I see a hotel over here. Let’s go over here and knock,” said Joseph.** Pretend to walk and then knock on hard surface.
- **“Is there any room here for my wife to have a baby?” “No room here.”** Shake your head no.
- **“There is one more place to go. Let’s go over there.”** Point in opposite direction. Walk in place.
- **Knock, knock, knock.** Knock on hard surface or door.
- **“Is there any room here for Mary to have the baby?” “No room here.”** Shake your head no.
- **“But... there is room in my barn.”**

Jesus is born.

- **“Oh, Mary, let’s go there. Hurry, the baby will come soon.”** Mary and Joseph went to the barn and made a bed out of straw. Pretend to make a bed out of straw.
- **This will be the place where Mary will have the Baby Jesus. It’s just about time! Ohhh...!**
- **Baby Jesus is here! Let’s put little Baby Jesus in the manger where animals eat.**
- **It will be soft for him because it is filled with new straw.**

Noisy animals in the barn.

- **I wonder what it was like that night when Jesus was born. What do you think Mary and Joseph heard? Do you think they heard any animals in the barn? Do you think they heard cows? Maybe, so, let’s listen. Moo.** (Children repeat.)
- **Do you hear any sheep? Maybe, so, let’s listen. Baa-a.** (Children repeat.)
- **Do you hear a donkey? Maybe, so, let’s listen. Eeehawww.** (Children repeat.)

Jesus is a king.

- **Think about Jesus in heaven. He is God’s own Son.** (Point to heaven.)
- **He is big and powerful. But he was born as a small baby. Let’s rock a baby in our arms.**
- **He was born in a barn with animals. Is that where you would expect to find a king?** Shake head “no.”
- **Is Jesus still important? Is Jesus still a king? Is he still the one God sent to help the whole world?** Shake your head “yes.”
- **Even though Jesus was born in a barn and did not look important, he would still be the one that God sent to help the whole world.**

Pray, Sing and Review the Take Home Point

Prayer:

Let's fold our hands and say a prayer. Repeat after me.

Dear God, Dear God,

You are with us. You are with us.

We love you. We love you.

You sent us Jesus. You sent us Jesus.

Thank you, thank you, thank you. Thank you, thank you, thank you.

In Jesus' name. In Jesus' name.

Amen. Amen.

Let's sing our song of the week.

Song: to the tune of *Frere Jaques*

Capitalized letters indicate emphasis on that syllable when the rhyme is sung.

GOD sends JE-sus.

GOD sends JE-sus.

YES he DOES.

YES he DOES.

GOD said HE would SEND him.

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GOD loves US.

GOD loves US.

Take Home Point:

Let's practice the Take Home Point. I'll say it first and you repeat after me: *God sends Jesus. God sends Jesus.

Activity 2: Snack

Supplies:

- *Napkins*
- *Cups and water*
- *Animal crackers*

<p><i>BE AWARE OF ANY FOOD ALLERGIES CHILDREN MAY HAVE BEFORE YOU GIVE THEM ANY FOOD TO EAT.</i></p>
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Today we are going to eat a snack that reminds us of the animals in the barn when Jesus was born. Before we eat our snack, let's fold our hands and say a prayer. Repeat after me.

Dear God, Dear God,
You are with us. You are with us.
We love you. We love you.
You sent us Jesus. You sent us Jesus.
Thank you, thank you, thank you. Thank you, thank you, thank you.
In Jesus' name. In Jesus' name.
Amen. Amen.

When Jesus was born in a barn, there were animals living there. Think about what it would be like if there were animals living in your bedroom. When you try to sleep, the cows would moo, the roosters would crow and the sheep would baaa. Our snack today is animal crackers. Pass out a napkin and cup of water to children. **When I give you your animal crackers, I want you to make the sound of one of them and then you may eat them.** Pass out few crackers to each child.

Let's practice the Take Home Point. I'll say it first and you repeat after me:
*God sends Jesus. God sends Jesus.

Let's sing our song of the week.

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Activity 3: Craft

Children take pride in making something themselves. Resist trying to do too much for children so that they can say, "I did it myself."

Supplies:

- Large craft sticks, one per child
- Packing peanut, one per child
- Yellow construction paper run through a shredder or cut into thin strips, about 3" long
- Option: small piece of cloth or a tissue for each child
- Double stick tape
- Permanent marker
- Sticker that says "God sends Jesus" or a permanent marker to write it on stick

Before class, put sticker on or write "God sends Jesus" on back of craft stick.

We have been learning that Jesus was born in a barn. We are going to make our own Baby Jesus stick puppet. First, we will draw a face (with permanent marker) **on our little baby** (packing peanut). Let children decide if they want to draw face or have teacher do it. Eyes can be open or closed. **Now let's tape** (double stick) **it to the top of the stick, on the plain side of the stick** (not side with sticker or writing). If using the option of the piece of cloth or tissue, wrap around peanut, leaving the head exposed. Tape in back. **Next we will tape on some hay** (strips of yellow construction paper, using double stick tape). **Now I want everyone to pretend to be an animal that was in the barn when Jesus was born.** There were probably horses, sheep, cows, mice, owls, chickens, roosters and maybe a cat. Everyone, make your animal noise and look at the king that was just born in your barn.

Let's practice the Take Home Point. I'll say it first and you repeat after me: *God sends Jesus. God sends Jesus.

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Let's pray now. Fold your hands and repeat after me:

Dear God, Dear God,
You are with us. You are with us.
We love you. We love you.
You sent us Jesus. You sent us Jesus.
Thank you, thank you, thank you. Thank you, thank you, thank you.
In Jesus' name. In Jesus' name.
Amen. Amen.

Activity 4: Games

Choose one or both games to play. Children with lots of wiggles should play the Movement Game first.

Learning Game

Supplies:

- none

We have been learning that Jesus was born in a barn with animals. Today we are going to play a game called *What Animal Am I?* After you answer the questions, you can do the actions.

1. What animal am I if I say meow? A cat. Let's all meow.
2. What animal am I if I say tweet-tweet? A bird. Let's flap our wings and tweet.
3. What animal am I if I say ribbit, ribbit? A frog. Let's hop like a frog.
4. What animal am I if I say bow-wow? A dog. Let's bark like a dog.
5. What animal am I if I say quack-quack? A duck. Let's waddle like a duck and say quack-quack.
6. What animal am I if I say oink-oink? A pig. Let's oink like a pig.
7. What animal am I if I squirt water out the top of my head? A whale. Let's pretend to squirt water out of our heads.
8. What animal am I if I say sssssssssss? A snake. Let's hiss like a snake.
9. What animal am I if I say hee-haw? A donkey. Let's bray like a donkey.
10. What animal am I if I say neigh-neigh? A horse. Let's all neigh like a horse.

Movement Game

Supplies:

- hula hoop

What sound would I make if I were a baby? Let's make a small crying noise like a baby. Surprise! Jesus was a baby. You would not think he would be born in a barn, but he was. Today we are going to play a game called *Barnyard Scramble*. I will roll a hula hoop across the room. I will say, "I think I hear a _____" (name an animal). You will run as fast as you can to where the hula hoop stops. You will put one foot in the hula hoop and make the sound the animal makes. You will run back to where we started. I will pick up the hula hoop and roll it again, saying a different animal sound. Use the following animals: horses, sheep, cows, ducks, mice, owls, chickens, roosters, cats, donkeys and dogs.

Let's practice the Take Home Point. I'll say it first and you repeat after me: *God sends Jesus. God sends Jesus.

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Amen. Amen.

Large Group Wrap-Up (5-10 minutes)



Lesson Review:

Presenter reviews the lesson by supplying key parts of the lesson with some words left out. Children are to supply the key words as the presenter shares the Bible Event.

See if you know the word I'm thinking of when I tell the Bible Event. If you know it, you may say it out loud without raising your hand.

**Mary and Joseph were going to have a very special baby named, _____.
Jesus. When they got to the town of Bethlehem, what did they have trouble
finding, a room or an ice cream store? A room. Was Jesus born in a palace
or a barn? A barn. What was in the barn with Jesus, animals or doctors
and nurses? Animals. Even though Jesus was born in a barn, is he still a
king? Yes.**

Lesson Prayer:

Let's fold our hands and pray. Repeat after me.

**Dear God, Dear God,
You are with us. You are with us.
We love you. We love you.
You sent us Jesus. You sent us Jesus.
Thank you, thank you, thank you. Thank you, thank you, thank you.
In Jesus' name. In Jesus' name.
Amen. Amen.**

Lesson Song:

Let's sing our song of the week.

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Take Home Point:

Let's practice the Take Home Point. I'll say it first and you repeat after me: *God sends Jesus. God sends Jesus.

Lead the children in singing songs from a CD until parents begin arriving. Let parents know that they are welcome to join in. Dismiss by handing out God Talk at Home.

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