lesson



At Home Weekly is designed for you to use during the week with your son or daughter. You'll find out what they learned today at church, and you can help them prepare for next week by exploring the theme (or Ponder Point) and spending time together in God's Word.

WHAT WE LEARNED THIS WEEK

PONDER POINT: JESUS IS IMMANUEL

Angel Visits Mary and Joseph

Isaiah 7:14; Luke 1:26–35; Matthew 1:18–25

An angel announces to Mary and Joseph that Jesus, God's Son, will be born of Mary. They are to call Him Immanuel—God with us.

WHERE WE'RE HEADED NEXT TIME

PONDER POINT: JESUS IS SAVIOR

Savior Is Born Luke 2:8–20 Jesus, our Savior and God's Son, is born in Bethlehem.

DID YOU KNOW?

Share these facts to get the conversation started.

• In the second chapter of Luke, angels announced the birth of Jesus to shepherds.

• Shepherds were typically single men who didn't have families. Although their duties kept them from participating in formal religious activities with the community, they experienced the holy.

• During the time of Caesar Augustus, flocks of sheep around the city of Jerusalem would be used as sacrifices in the temple. It's quite possible the men tending sheep the night Jesus was born were in fact caring for the temple flock—sheep meant for sacrifices.

CONNECT AS A FAMILY

Right before bedtime, gather your family together around a nativity set, or use a nativity scene from a book or website. Tell them you're going to read the part of The Big God Story where Jesus is born. **Read Luke 2:8–20**. Discuss what it must have been like for baby Jesus to be born in a stable. Remember that the good news that Jesus was born was shared first with shepherds—people who cared for sheep. Ask your children why they think God would choose to have His Son born in a stable. Why were the shepherds the first to hear this good news?

After reading the Scripture passage, discuss these questions together:

- How do you think the shepherds felt when they first saw baby Jesus?
- What can we do to celebrate the fact that Jesus is here?
- Whom do we know who needs to hear about Jesus?

These questions can easily extend into the rest of the week. Look for opportunities to bring conversations about how Jesus Is Savior into your everyday life as a family.

REMEMBER VERSE

The Remember Verse focuses on a character trait of God that's highlighted in next week's portion of The Big God Story.

The LORD your God is with you, the Mighty Warrior who saves. Zephaniah 3:17a

BLESSING

Blessings are often used in the Bible. A blessing can be a prayer of commission, a portion of Scripture, or words to encourage and guide.

A blessing to pray over your child:

(Child's name), may God show you how much He loves you. May God help you share the good news that Jesus is Savior.

For more information about blessing your child, go to <u>truministry.com</u> to the Parenting tab. And for more creative ideas on spiritually leading your family, visit <u>HomeFrontMag.com</u>.

