

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: GOD GAVE THE PROMISE, PART 2

Joseph

Matthew 1:18–25

When Joseph found out his betrothed, Mary, was pregnant, he decided to divorce her quietly. But an angel appeared to Joseph in a dream telling him that the baby was God's Promise, Jesus. Joseph obeyed God and married Mary.

WHERE WE'RE HEADED NEXT TIME

PONDER POINT: JESUS IS THE PROMISE

Christ's Birth

Luke 2:8–20

The angels proclaim Christ's birth.

DID YOU KNOW?

Share these facts to get the conversation started.

- The angels who announced Christ's birth first appeared to the shepherds, who were considered the lowest segment of society at the time.
- Heaven and earth joined for a moment in celebration as a great multitude of angels spilled into the skies of earth to proclaim the arrival of Jesus.
- After seeing Jesus, the shepherds were compelled to tell others of their experience with God.

CONNECT AS A FAMILY

Before reading this passage, gather around your Christmas tree. (If you don't have a tree, try turning down the lights and lighting some candles.) **Read Luke 2:8–20.** Explain to your children that it must have been an amazing sight to see so many angels praising God. Next, lead your family in singing the carol "Hark! The Herald Angels Sing." (You may want to search the Internet for the lyrics or download the song.)

After reading the Scripture passage, discuss these questions together:

- What did the angels say when they appeared to the shepherds?
- What do you think the angels' voices sounded like?
- What do you think the shepherds told people after they had seen Jesus?

These questions can easily extend into the rest of the week. Look for opportunities to bring conversations about how Jesus Is the Promise 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.

Praise be to the Lord, the God of Israel, because he has come to his people and redeemed them.

Luke 1:68

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 you know God has shown you and given you The Promise, Jesus.**

For more information about blessing your child, talk to your ministry leader or see *Spiritual Parenting* by Michelle Anthony.