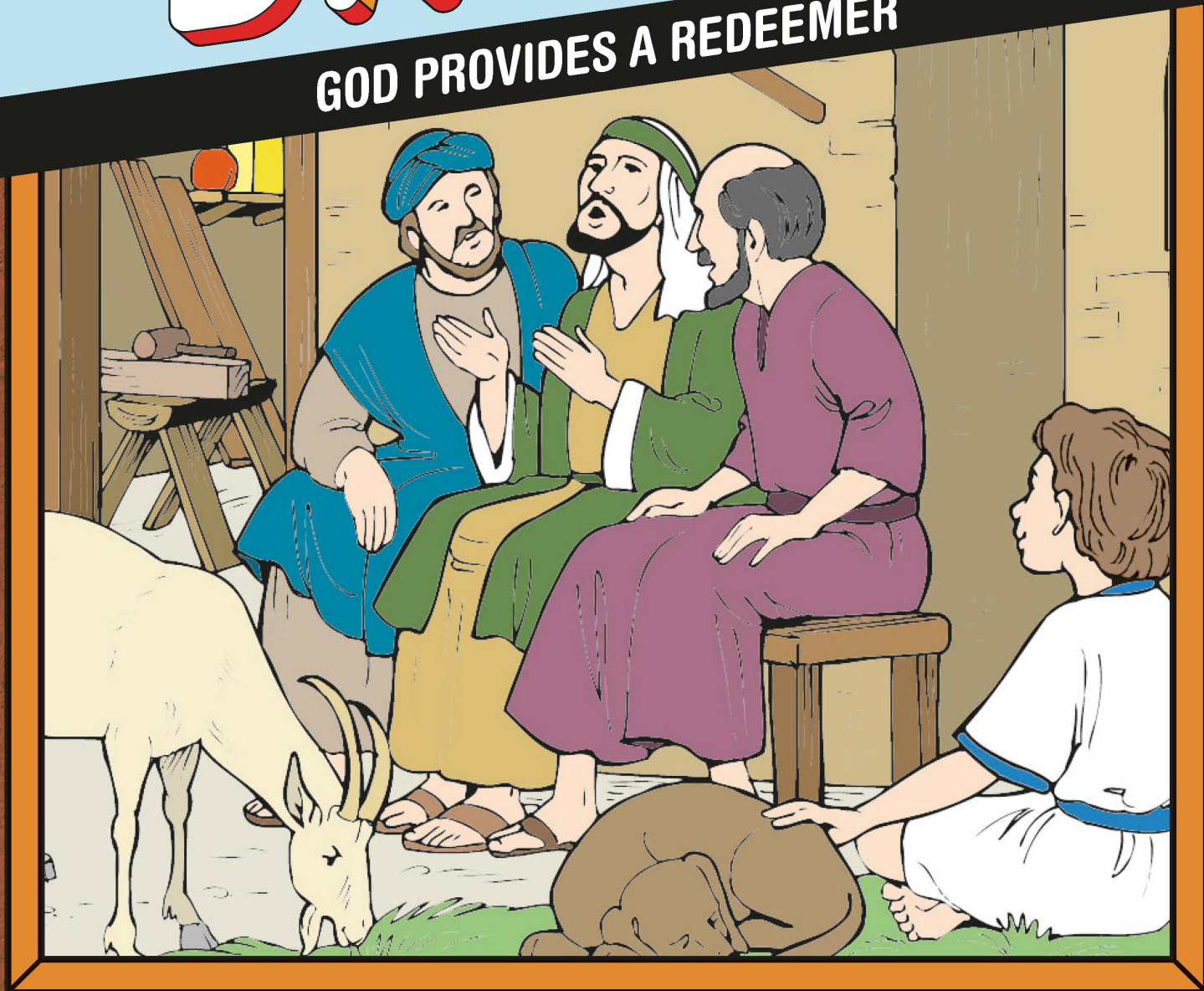


WINTER 2026-2027 • PRIMARY • TEACHER'S GUIDE

BIBLE BASICS

GOD PROVIDES A REDEEMER





Primary Teacher

Winter Quarter, 2026-2027

God Provides a Redeemer for His World

Quarterly Objective:
*The pupil will learn
why and how God
sent a Redeemer for
mankind.*

Unit 1—Jesus—God's Son

December	6	A Son Is Promised	7
December	13	Zacharias' Faith	12
December	20	The Miracle Child	18
December	27	Special Spiritual Servants	23

Unit 2—The Childhood of Jesus

January	3	The Adorable Child	30
January	10	Follow the Star	35
January	17	King Herod's Decree	41
January	24	Families Are for Keeps	46
January	31	Growing Up in Nazareth	52

Unit 3—Jesus Began His Father's Work

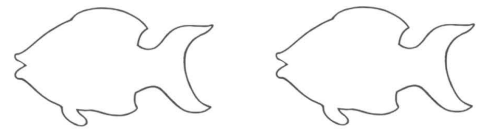
February	7	John Preached Repentance	59
February	14	Jesus Was Baptized	64
February	21	Jesus Refused To Listen to Satan	70
February	28	Jesus Called Helpers	76

Volume 8, No. 2, Winter Quarter, 2026-2027

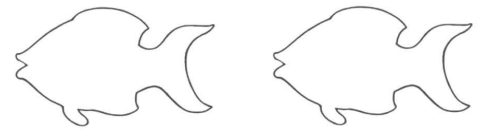
Writer: Lena Case

© 2026, Bogard Press, 4605 N. State Line Ave. Texarkana, TX 75503-2928

www.bogardpress.org; 1-800-264-2482



Life's Short— Fish Hard



An avid fisherman must have designed that bumper sticker message. The amusing idea brings a chuckle, but actually it has a scriptural impact. A follower of the Lord Jesus is a “fisher of men” commissioned to proclaim the gospel message to the world. Because life is short, we must work intensely.

The simplicity of the gospel is meaningful in times when life is anything but simple for children or adults. The Son of God, through His death on Calvary, paid in full the penalty for all sin. When a person puts his faith and trust in Jesus Christ, he then has a place reserved for him in Heaven. The lessons in this course point to the Redeemer whom God sent for His world. They provide many opportunities to major on. But your main emphasis is to direct boys and girls to Christ for eternal life. Set a goal of reaching the unsaved children in your group for Christ and impacting young believers to become fishermen, too.

There are many cultural differences among the billions of people on earth, but when God looks at us, He sees only two distinctions. First, there are those who have placed their trust in Jesus Christ and received His gift of eternal life and are on their way to Heaven. Second, there are those who have rejected Christ and are facing an eternity in hell. You can make the difference for your third- and fourth-grade children by responding to the urgency of the times with answers from God’s Word.

Guiding children to know, love and follow Jesus is the goal of these lessons. Each lesson includes practical suggestions to involve learners in discovering Bible truths through active experiences. The learners increase retention of Bible principles when they participate in the discovery process.

Life is short. We cannot know when one’s lifetime will end nor when Christ’s return for the saved will happen. That makes “fish hard” have even more urgency. Only what we do for Christ has lasting value. Investing in young lives of children and directing them to a meaningful life in Him is a sure strategy for compounded interest on treasures in Heaven.

Right now, think of the lives you will influence for God this quarter. As a commitment to the Lord Jesus, you will be actively guiding and involving children in learning His Word with innovative techniques set forth in these lessons. Write in the fish shapes on the top of the page the names of the learners in your group. Tell God what you want to see happen in their lives and yours as a result of studying about His Son. Pray for each child regularly. Then get ready for a big catch!

Anatomy of Active Learning



One thing is sure—you cannot wait until the night before to prepare for these lessons and hope to be effective. Causing learners to think more deeply—thus developing their faith in Jesus Christ—takes more than a hasty glance at the Bible story title and depending on your memory to recall details.

Active learning requires investments, but before you switch channels, remember there is a rewarding payback. “For God is not unrighteous to forget your work and labour of love, which ye have shewed toward his name, in that ye have ministered to the saints, and do minister” (Hebrews 6:10).

Coaching a learning team requires enthusiasm, so “whatsoever ye do, do it heartily, as to the Lord, and not unto men” (Colossians 3:23). That means begin preparation early. Read the Scripture background along with corresponding passages from the other Gospels.

With the Bible principle and aim in mind, read through the entire lesson with a notepad and pen in hand. Make a “To Do” list. If an activity calls for photocopies, leave the original in the church office with a note telling the church secretary how many copies you need. Pick them up at a later time. If you have no secretary, plan to make the copies yourself. AVOID . . . STAY AWAY FROM . . . DO NOT wait until before class to make them. Too risky. Something as important as your planned learning experiences need the insurance of adequate preparation.

You will not spend all week preparing for the learning session, but starting early has the bonus value of getting your mind in gear so that the Lord can give you insights about the subject and alert you to teaching tools you can use to help learners discover Bible truths. *The printed ideas in this book may just be the jump-start you need to get going on an awesome idea of your own.*

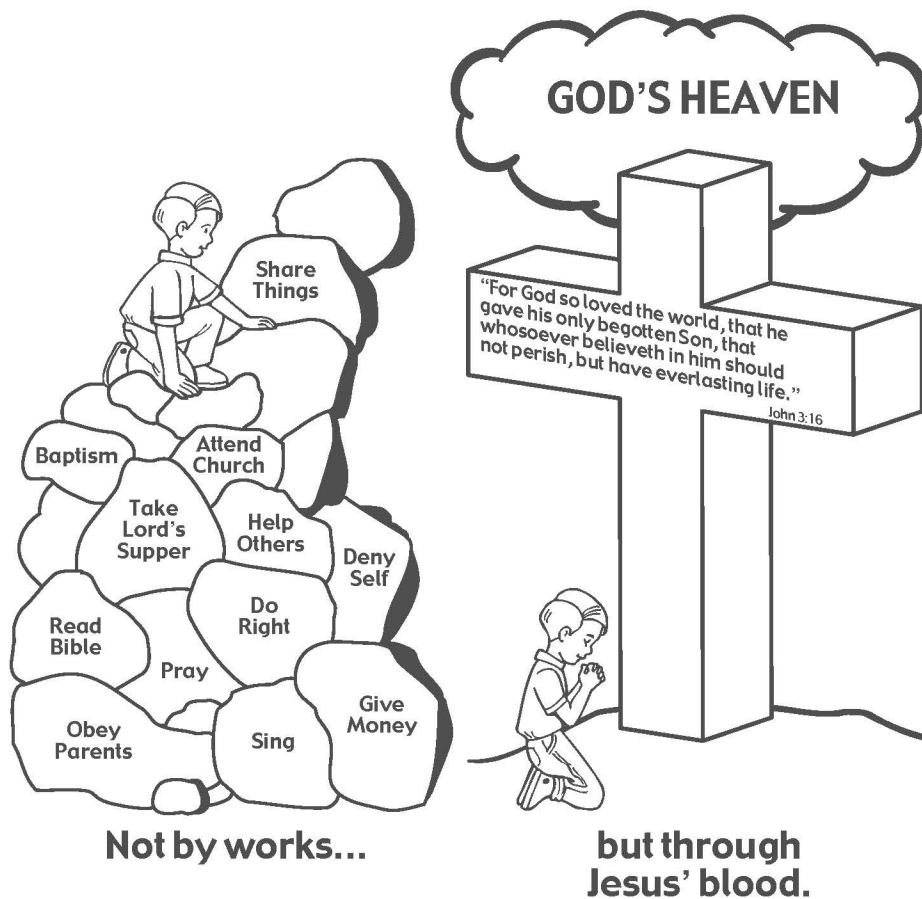
Some lessons call for using gadgets to get a point across. A Teacher Resource Center in your church is a great place for storing such learning tools. Otherwise, label a sturdy box as “Learning Tools” and keep your doodads together to reuse as needed. Be a saver—a good steward of God’s resources. Invest in objects that help you illustrate a Bible principle, but save them for future lessons. Believe me, the toy mouse and mouse trap object lesson sticks. It makes a few purchases worth the investment when you see interest and attendance growing and God’s Word changing lives. Remember, you are investing in eternal rewards both for you and your learners!



God's Way To Heaven

Jesus paid for all our sin by dying on the cross and coming to life again on the third day. There is nothing good we can offer God to make Him forget our sin. He asks us to believe or trust Him to take away sin. Eternal life is His gift to whoever will accept Jesus as Savior.

Make this picture into a poster for your room. Photocopy it to an overhead projector transparency and project it to a poster board. Trace the lines lightly with a pencil. Go over the lines with a black permanent marker. Color with colored pencils, markers, chalk or crayons. Laminate the finished poster and use it to emphasize the only way to Heaven.



God's Way to Heaven

Unit 1

Lessons 1–4

Jesus—God’s Son

Unit Objective

The advent of God to earth in human form. The learners will celebrate the coming of Jesus to earth and tell about events surrounding His birth.

Boys and girls will know prophecies about Jesus happened exactly as foretold.

Learners will feel gratitude for God’s gift of eternal life available through faith in Jesus, His Son.

Everyone can discover Bible records of prophecies and their fulfillment in Jesus’ birth and accept Jesus as personal Redeemer.

This Unit and Your Learners

The good news of Jesus is the best news you can share with people searching for meaning to life. Accepting Jesus as Savior makes sense. Most third- and fourth-graders realize their guilt of sin and the need for God’s forgiveness. Their spiritual awakening makes them ready to receive God’s provision of a Redeemer.

Stress the gift of salvation that God gives to all who receive Jesus as Savior. Many children this age reach the realization of personal responsibility for sin and know it is by trusting in Christ that one can have eternal life. This study provides an ideal setting for explaining the way to receive salvation.

Society’s focus on materialism detracts from the spiritual meaning of this season of the year. Help learners to sense the purpose for celebrating the birth of God’s Son. Guide them in expressing sincere gratitude for the gift of Jesus. Learning activities suggested in the lessons help learners to share experiences related to the greatest gift ever—God’s Son.

Sin’s guilty verdict made man unfit for Heaven. God created man for worship and fellowship, but Satan interfered. To restore the relationship lost when man sinned, God Himself came to earth in human form to take our place in paying sin’s penalty.

Overview of Bible Lessons

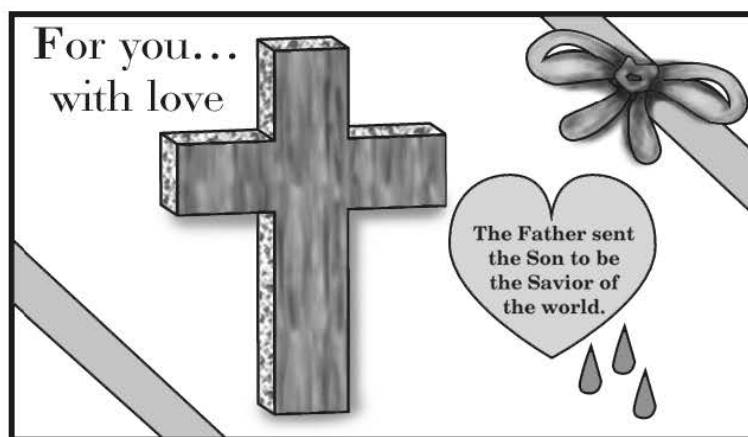
A Son Is Promised—Specific prophecies about Jesus’ birth help learners to know Jesus was the promised Messiah.

Zacharias’ Faith—God sent another special baby who would grow up to be the forerunner for Jesus’ work.

The Miracle Child—Mary’s firstborn son was God Himself in the form of a human baby boy.

Special Spiritual Servants—Angels are messengers of God who serve Him in special ways. Angels played a vital role in the preparation and coming of God’s Son to earth.

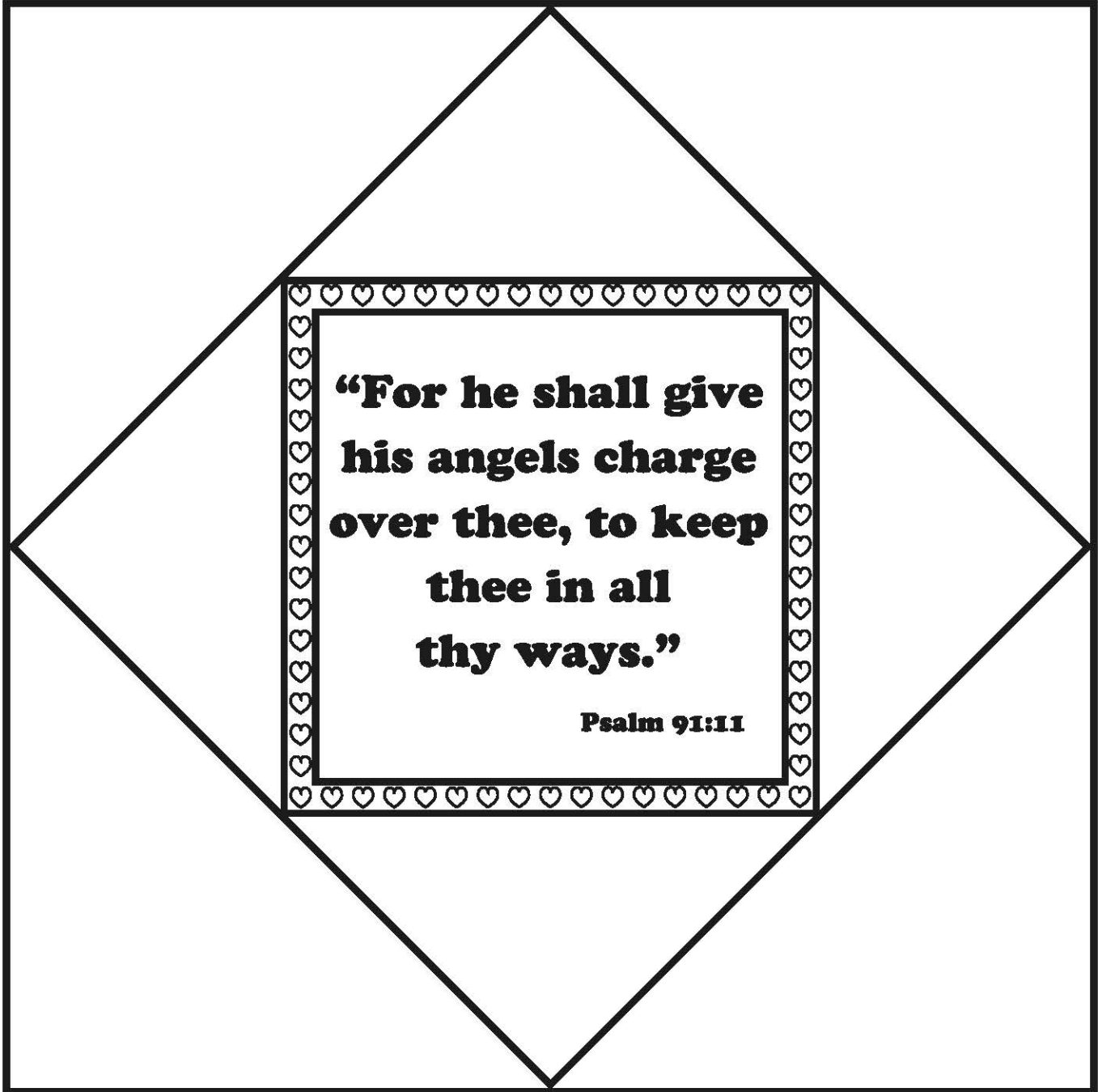
BULLETIN BOARD



- ❑ **Materials Needed:** white paper background, wide red velour ribbon, foam insulation board or Styrofoam cross, wood-grain Con-Tact paper, paper for letters, red construction paper, scissors

Cover the board with a white paper background like a gift wrapping. Add wide red velour ribbon at opposite corners. Make a 3-D cross from foam insulation boards or use a Styrofoam cross from a craft store. Cover it with wood-grain Con-Tact paper. Add cut-out letters at top left as shown. Cut a large heart from red paper and letter by hand: “The Father sent the Son to be the Savior of the world.” Cut shapes for three drops of blood from red paper and add them under the heart.

Scripture frame in center – Lesson 4



Quilt Block – Lesson 1 (omit frame in center)



A Son Is Promised

Luke 1:26-38

Jesus' birth fulfilled prophecy.



The Prince of Peace Luke 1:26-38

Since the promise in Genesis 3:15, Jews looked forward to the coming Redeemer, and Jewish wives hoped to be the honored mother. Prophets foretold details of His birth and other facts about the King who would redeem man from sin's penalty. When the time came, God chose Mary, a virgin bride-to-be, as the mother for His Son who gave up His glorious presence in Heaven to become a helpless newborn baby on earth. The angel Gabriel appeared to Mary at Nazareth to tell her she would become the mother of the Messiah. The child's Father would be God Himself, accomplished through a miracle of the Holy Spirit.

Lesson Objective:

Learners will use the Bible to discover God's promise to send His Son as the Savior, or Redeemer, hundreds of years before Jesus' birth.

Bible Principle:

Man's sin marred God's creation and brought the penalty of spiritual death. God sent His Son to pay the sin debt and be the promised Redeemer.

Bible Insight:

"Behold, a virgin shall conceive, and bear a son, and shall call his name Immanuel."

Isaiah 7:14

LIFE
APPLICATION

I believe Jesus Christ is God in a human body, born of a virgin, lived a sinless life, died to pay sin's penalty and will come again to rule with His saints.

KNOW GOD'S WORD

The virgin birth of Jesus Christ is a basic Bible doctrine for our faith. The miraculous, holy conception came through the work of the Holy Spirit. Some of the prophecies fulfilled in Christ's birth were written about seven hundred years before they happened. Only an infinitely wise God could inspire writers to record specific details that came to pass exactly as foretold.

The angel Gabriel appeared to Mary at Nazareth when she was betrothed to Joseph before their marriage. In their time, betrothal was a legally binding promise to marry. It was like marriage without living together. It was not until the wedding ceremony that the husband took his wife home with him, but they pledged and committed themselves to one another during the betrothal. Society considered breaking one's vows during betrothal as adultery. The parties dissolved the relationship only by divorce.

Young Mary, perhaps still a teenager, could not understand how she could have a baby when she had not yet lived as a wife with her husband-to-be. Gabriel assured her the baby she would deliver resulted from the Holy Spirit and the power of Almighty God with whom nothing is impossible.

Gabriel, obeying God's will, told Mary to name the baby Jesus which means "Savior." The Son of God had the title Christ, the one anointed by God to be our Savior.

The need for God to provide a Redeemer resulted from Adam and Eve's yielding to Satan's temptation in the Garden of Eden. They died spiritually that day, and their sin nature passed on to all their descendants. But God promised redemption (Gen. 3:15). That scarlet thread of redemptive hope was an

integral part of Old Testament Scriptures. The Jews knew that God would send one to deliver them and be their ruler.

They also knew His birth would happen in Bethlehem of Judea because of prophecy in Micah 5:2. They knew He would be born of a virgin because Isaiah 7:14 prophesied that important fact. Jeremiah 31:15 warned of people weeping at the massacre of infants in Bethlehem. The return from Egypt was foretold in Hosea 11:1. Fulfilled prophecies prove Jesus is the Son of God.

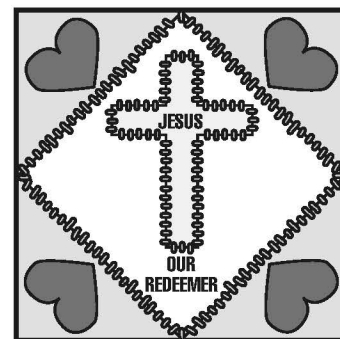
EARLY TIME ACTIVITIES

- ❑ **Materials Needed:** heart stickers, quilt block pattern, wallpaper or colored paper squares, crayons or marking pens, butcher paper, newsprint

Be a friend to your learners. Welcome each with genuine gladness for his presence. Provide heart stickers and invite the students to use them to record attendance on the new chart for the quarter.

Story Quilt—Quilt making offers creative opportunities to think about events surrounding the birth of Jesus and prophecies concerning Him. The quilt will make an attractive wall hanging for your room.

As learners arrive, give them a pattern like the one



Prepare Your Room

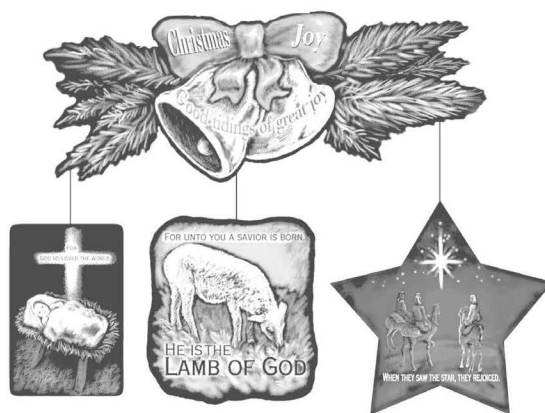
- ❑ **Materials Needed:** Item 1 Attendance Chart, Item 2 Room Decoration Mobile, scissors, yarn or thread, Item 3 Teaching Picture

Reverence for God's house calls for making the setting pleasant and attractive. The Christmas season is a special time for most people, and though we may not agree with many secular celebrations of Christ's birth or the time of year chosen for it, we need to guide learners in thinking of the true meaning of the holiday. Room decorations reflect your love for God's house and honor for His Son whom He sent as Redeemer.

Clear the room of materials used previously. Put the attendance chart, Item 1 from the visuals, where learners can easily reach it.

Hang the mobile for this unit, Item 2, as a room decoration. The symbols and Bible words represent the true meaning of Christmas.

Display Item 3 for the entire quarter of lessons about Jesus. Biblical names and titles of the Son of God reflect His character and ministry as Redeemer. The picture teaches respect for the sovereign God who became one of us to pay sin's penalty.



VOCABULARY WORDS

prophecy—prediction of the future under the influence of divine guidance

Redeemer—one who rescues another from captivity or bondage; one who delivers from sin and its penalty by a sacrifice made for the sinner; when capitalized, Redeemer refers to Jesus Christ, the Savior of the world

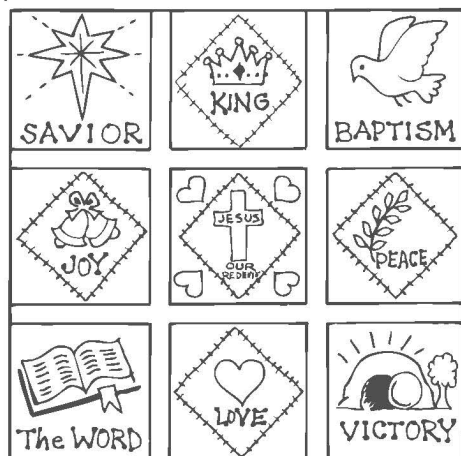
virgin—an unmarried young woman who is pure, innocent and living a clean life, free of moral impurity

betrothal—a promise or engagement for future marriage



on Unit 1 Pattern Page with instructions to add symbols or designs to reflect the quarterly theme of God providing a Redeemer for His world or the theme for Unit 1, Jesus—God's Son. It may include pictures about the gospel of Christ, including His birth, life, death and resurrection.

Each learner designs one quilt square. Add "stitches" with a crayon or marking pen. Mount the completed squares on a butcher paper background to form a large quilt. Leave a 2" strip of the background paper showing between blocks to give a quilted look.



Alternate method: arrange and attach quilt blocks to a newsprint background leaving 1 1/2" space between blocks. Add 2" strips of construction paper to set the quilt together letting them overlap edges of blocks and covering the space left between them. Children will enjoy seeing their quilt displayed during the quarter and may bring someone by to see their work.

Lesson Set

Materials Needed: paper strips with Scripture references

Who Is the Messenger? game—Play "Who Is the Messenger?" game to introduce the subject of Mary's hearing and obeying God's message brought by the angel Gabriel.

Ask: How can we send a message to someone? (Wait for learners to name methods of communication used today.)

Say: We are going to play "Who Is the Messenger?" before we hear a Bible story about a special messenger who brought an unusual message.

Choose three "messengers" to stand at the front of the room. Other children sit on the floor facing the back of the room with hands shielding eyes as blinders. Each messenger gently taps the shoulder of a seated player and returns to the front of the room. Ask those tapped to stand up and try to guess which messenger touched them. A player who guesses right takes the place of the messenger for the next round. If he does not guess the right messenger, the one who tapped him gets to be a messenger again. After playing several times, introduce the Lesson Theme.

Discussion: The Bible story tells about a special messenger God sent to a young virgin named Mary. He sent the angel Gabriel to tell Mary some wonderful news that would fulfill prophecies. Prophecy is the prediction of the future under the influence of divine guidance.

Old Testament Scriptures have over three hundred prophecies about the Messiah. The Jews waited many years for the coming of One whom they expected to be a king to save their nation from persecution. They believed He would rule over them and the whole world. They thought He would bring peace forever.

The fulfillment of those prophecies proves that Jesus is the Redeemer God sent for man. While many Jews believed that Jesus was their Messiah, most rejected Him.

Hand out paper strips with the following references on them, one per piece. Ask learners to look up the Bible verse and read it silently. Then each finds a partner who has a matching reference to the verse—Old Testament prophecies with matching verses of New Testament fulfillment. Allow one minute for the Bible search and match.

How Jesus would be born:
Isaiah 7:14—Matthew 1:23

Where Jesus would be born:
Micah 5:2—Luke 2:4

Someone sent to prepare people for His coming:
Isaiah 40:3—Matthew 3:3

Jesus' suffering and death:
Isaiah 53:4, 5—1 Peter 2:24

Ask partners to share aloud a prophecy of Jesus and how it came to pass.

WORSHIP TIME DEVOTIONAL

A Son Is Given, Isaiah 9:6

Materials Needed: Bible, "peace" theme Christmas cards

Sing "For God So Loved the World" and other songs or choruses about Jesus.

Show Christmas cards that have the theme of peace for the design or message.

What is peace? *(No wars, people get along with one another, you feel calm inside.)*

Do we have peace in the world today? Why or why not? *(Individuals can have peace of mind and heart through Jesus, but cities have a lot of unrest because people sometimes hurt others. War is a way of life in many nations of the world.)*

What do you think would bring about world peace today? *(If everyone accepted Jesus as Savior and let Him be Lord of his life.)*

The Bible calls Jesus the "Prince of Peace." Many years before His birth, the prophet Isaiah wrote about Jesus. *(Read Isaiah 9:6.)*

Jesus' name is more than just a name. His birth was the coming of God Himself to earth. He humbled Himself and left the glorious position He had in Heaven to become one of us, so He could provide our salvation. God gave His Son to be the Redeemer for His world.

Have you received God's gift of eternal life? The choice is a personal decision you must make for yourself. All have sinned. The result of sin is spiritual death—eternal separation from God in a place of punishment called hell. God sent Jesus to pay the penalty for sin. By accepting His death as your substitute you can have eternal life with God in Heaven. By faith you can trust Jesus as your personal Savior. God will forgive your sin and write your name in His book of life. You become His child.

After that, live in gratitude for His sacrifice. Jesus is now Lord of your life, and you are a servant to do His will on earth. There is no greater happiness than a life focused on doing what God wants you to do.

BIBLE STORY

Materials Needed: Figures 1-1 and 1-2

Even though people looked forward to the coming of the Messiah, still many did not believe Mary's baby was their Christ. Mary had not married when the angel came to give her God's message. Her betrothal—a promise or engagement for future marriage—to Joseph, a carpenter in Nazareth, was common knowledge in the small town. The wedding was still in the future.

God sent His angel Gabriel to Nazareth to give a special message to Mary. *(Display figures 1-1 and 1-2.)*

What did the angel say to her? *(Invite learners to find Luke 1:28 and read the angel's greeting aloud.)*

How would you feel if you were Mary? *(Surprised, afraid, shocked, happy.)*

Mary did not know what to think of the angel's greeting. As she thought it over, the angel continued.

"Fear not, Mary, for you have found favor with God. You will have a son. Name Him JESUS. He shall be great and shall be the Son of the Highest. The Lord God shall give unto Him the throne of His father David. He will be King of the Jews forever."

Mary, filled with awe and wonder asked, "How can this happen? I have never known a man in an intimate way."

Her pure life was one reason God chose her for this special assignment. A virgin is an unmarried young woman who is pure, innocent and living a clean life, free of moral impurity. The angel told Mary how it would happen.

"The Holy Spirit shall come upon you, and the power of the Highest shall overshadow you. The holy baby which you shall deliver will be the Son of God. With God nothing is impossible."

Mary accepted this wonderful position of becoming a mother.

"I am the servant of the Lord," she said. "So be it as you have said." Then the angel Gabriel left Mary. *(Remove figure 1-2.)* Why do you think Mary agreed to do what the angel said? *(She loved God and was glad He had chosen her as the mother for His Son. She felt honored.)*

Do you think Mary knew the prophecies or promises in God's Word that a Redeemer would come? *(Yes. Jewish women hoped to be the mother of the Messiah for whom all Israel looked.)*

Which prophecy foretold that a virgin would have a son? *(Let learners who looked up that prophecy in the Lesson Set share it again.)* Mary's baby that began to grow inside her body did not have a physical father. That fact is very important for you to believe.

We call this belief a doctrine—the virgin birth of Christ. If Jesus had a human father, He would be only human. Because of God's power, Mary was the only human parent Jesus had. He did not have a sin nature because God was His Father. Our faith in Him has a firm foundation. Jesus was God in a human body.

All the predictions in Old Testament Scriptures came to pass exactly as foretold. God sent His Son to earth to be the Redeemer for man's sinful nature. Jesus, the eternal God, gave up His glory in Heaven to become a human to pay the sacrifice required for sin. The tiny seed put into Mary's body by the Holy Spirit grew and developed into a baby boy—God in a human body.

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

Materials Needed: chalkboard or marker board, chalk or marker

This month we remember the birth of Christ. Many people celebrate Christmas without a thought of worship and honor to Jesus. What can we do to worship and exalt the One whose birthday we claim to observe? *(List on the board suggestions learners offer as ways to glorify Jesus.)*

Read Isaiah 9:6, 7. *(See Worship Time Devotional.)*

Jesus was the Redeemer—the One who delivers from sin and its penalties by the sacrifice He made for the sinner. His sinless human life made His death an acceptable payment for sin's penalty. He died for the sin of all men. Whoever will receive Him can have forgiveness and the gift of eternal life.

BIBLE INSIGHT

Materials Needed: index cards, pocket chart or table, Item 3 Teaching Picture

"Behold, a virgin shall conceive, and bear a son, and shall call his name Immanuel," Isaiah 7:14.

Beforehand, write one word and the reference of the Bible Insight near the top of separate index cards. Place the words in a scrambled order in a pocket chart or on the table or floor.

Ask learners to find the Bible reference and read the verse aloud in unison. Explain that Immanuel is a name for Jesus that means "God with us." (*Point out the poster, Item 3.*) Read the words again with a rhythmic tempo, pausing at the commas.

Then invite learners to work together to organize the word cards in correct order. Divide the children into four groups. One person can be a group. Assign sections of the verse between commas to the different groups with your saying the reference. See how smoothly they can perform a choral recitation of the verse by each group saying their assigned words in turn.

Learner's Manual

Materials Needed: Bibles, learners' manuals, pencils

The learner's manual has perforated pages for easy removal to send home lesson related pages each week. Each lesson has four pages to provide learning experiences as learners think about the Bible principle shared during class time.

Keep the activity on the second page until later in the quarter when learners tell the good news about Jesus. Give the four pages of Lesson 1 to the learners. Let two of them read the dialogue between Mary and the angel with a narrator reading the other parts in the Bible story.

Ask learners to work in pairs to complete the speech balloons on the next page. Doing God's will is what Christian living is all about. Learners should make life applications as they match speech balloons with the responses from the middle.

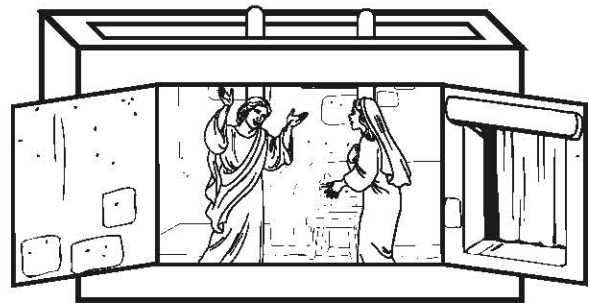
For the Bible Insight verse, stress the accuracy of all Bible prophecies. Had the writers not had divine inspiration, the chances of their predictions coming true would be almost nonexistent. Because God guided them as they spoke and wrote His Word, all prophecies came to pass exactly as foretold. Answers for the blanks are *Mary, Jesus, God with us* and *Jesus*.

The thinking activity on the last page emphasizes the need for reading God's Word every day. We get messages from God today by reading the Bible, by praying and by hearing people teach and preach God's Word when we attend church services. Answers to the next question will be personal. A child of God is glad to have the Bible to learn God's will. Sometimes we may feel concern that we will not remember all that God wants us to do.

Make and Take

Materials Needed: Make and Take Lesson 1, crayons or markers, scissors, glue, tagboard, index paper or cardboard

Assemble a sample Bible Story Theater to show learners what the finished make and take project for Lesson 1 is like. Glue the theater to tagboard, index paper or a piece of cardboard like a cereal box to make a sturdier learning tool. Assemble with instructions on the project page. The learners can put on a drama of the Bible story using their puppets and stage. They may want to make other puppets on their own as the story of Jesus' birth continues.



Saying Good-bye

Materials Needed: take-home papers, children's things

Keeping Christ central in holiday plans should be the goal of everyone redeemed from the penalty of sin through His death on the cross. Gratitude for His great sacrifice prompts loving worship. Challenge learners to do all they can to make their families more aware of honoring the Christ whose birthday we claim to remember.

Express appreciation to each child for a specific positive attribute shown during class time.