

## **Mary Gives Birth to Jesus (Luke 1:26-2:20)**

God sent an angel to a young lady named Mary; and told her that she would have a baby that would be God's Son. The angel said God's Son would save the world from their sins. Mary asked the angel, "How can this be since I am a virgin?" Then the angel said, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you and overshadow you. " Then Mary got very excited and said, "My soul magnifies the Lord. And my spirit rejoices in God my savior."

Now Mary was engaged to be married to a carpenter named Joseph. Just before the Baby was to be born, Mary and Joseph, had to make a long trip and go to Bethlehem to pay taxes. Joseph knew that the baby was going to come at any moment. He looked all over Bethlehem for a place for them to stay, but Bethlehem was so crowded that the only place they could find to sleep was in a stable for animals.

That night, in a lowly stable God's only Son was born as a baby. There was no baby bed for Him to lie in, no soft blanket to wrap Him in and no doctors to check him over, just some swaddling clothes and a lowly manger that was normally used to feed the animals.

That very evening, though, there were some shepherds that were tending their flocks. When suddenly there were angels appearing everywhere, praising God and saying, "Glory to God in the highest, and peace to all men." The angels told the shepherds that the savior of the world, who is Christ the Lord, was born this very night. And they told the shepherds where to find the Christ child.

When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to each other, "Let us go to Bethlehem to see this thing that has happened, which the Lord has told us about."

So they hurried off and found Mary and Joseph, and the baby, who was lying in the manger just as the angel had said. When they had seen him, they told everyone what they had seen. All who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds had said to them. But Mary treasured up all these things and pondered them in her heart. The shepherds returned to the fields, glorifying and praising God for all the things they had seen and heard.

After Jesus was born in Bethlehem, some wise men from the east came to find the Christ Child. A were following a star that would lead them to the baby Jesus. The star went ahead of them until it stopped over the place where the child was. When they saw the star, they were overjoyed. On coming to the house, they saw the child with his mother Mary, and they bowed down and worshiped him. Then they opened their treasures and presented him with gifts of gold, incense and myrrh. Mary continually remembered this special night and pondered them in her heart.

Memory Verse:

“Behold, the virgin shall be with child, and shall bear a son, and they shall call His name Immanuel, which means, ‘God with us.’” Matthew 1: 23

Understanding Questions:

1. What town was Jesus born in?
2. Where did Mary and Joseph stay when Jesus was born?
3. What did the shepherds and wise men follow to find Jesus?
4. What did Baby Jesus sleep in?
5. What were the 3 gifts that the wise men brought Jesus?

Discussion Questions:

1. Why was Jesus born on earth?
2. How was Jesus like you and me?
3. How was Jesus different from you and me?