

MATTHEW 1, LUKE 1 - JESUS WAS BORN

KIDS' LIFEGROUP GUIDE

WEEK: 12/15/19 - 12/21/19

OVERVIEW:

- **Part 1:** Catch Up On Life (15 Minutes)
- **Part 2:** Kidtown Lesson Review (15 Minutes)
- **Part 3:** Reflection (15 Minutes)
 - Optional - Part 3a: Lesson Activity (10 Minutes)
 - Optional - Part 3b: Snack (5 Minutes)
 - Optional - Part 3c: Sing (5 Minutes)
- **Part 4:** Prayer Time! (20 Minutes)

PART 1: CATCH UP ON LIFE (15 minutes)

Setting: Sit in a circle with kids and adults interspersed! Adults sitting amongst the kids helps everyone engage and pay attention. Parents - you are always responsible for your kids, but you're also looking to engage with other kids in your group.

- *Leader Note: If your group eats dinner with your kids, this is the best part of the guide to do together while you eat. Add 15 minutes for everyone to get their plates and start eating. Then shift into intentional conversation as the kids are starting to finish their food.*

Vision: God calls the church -- and our LifeGroup -- to be family! Because of this, we want our kids to know our adults and our adults to know our kids. The best way to get to know each other is to ask each other questions and tell each other about our lives.

- *Leader note: While you're getting started, have an adult -- or older kid -- read this vision statement. After you've done it for a while, you can ask kids if they remember why we ask each other questions. Help them to remember that God's making us family, so we want to get to know each other.*

Questions:

- 1.) What was your high and low from the week?
- 2.) **Kids Pick!** Let each kid ask the adults in the group one question.
 - Click [here](#) for a bank of questions for Kids to ask Adults if they're having a hard time thinking of any.
- 3.) **Adults Pick!** Have each adult ask the kids in the group one question.
 - Click [here](#) for a bank of questions for Adults to ask Kids if they're having a hard time thinking of any.

PART 2: KIDTOWN LESSON REVIEW (15 minutes)

Vision: God uses the Bible to show Himself to us. He also uses it to help us love Him and others better. We don't only want to learn *about* the Bible; we're also called to apply it to our lives -- to change the way we think (Head), what we love and value (Heart) and what we do (Hands).

- *Leader note: While you're getting started, have an adult -- or older kid -- read this vision statement. After you've done it for a while, ask kids if they remember why we study the Bible.*

Lesson: Jesus Was Born

Bible Passages: Matthew 1, Luke 1

REVIEW:

- 1.) **Kids what do you remember from the story you learned about on Sunday?** (Pause and let them think of what they can remember.)
- 2.) **Can anyone remember the main characters?**
 - God/Jesus! (*Leader Note: Almost always a right answer. Helps reinforce that the entire Bible is about God and points forward to Jesus*)
 - Mary
 - Joseph
 - Shepherds
 - Angels
- 3.) **Ok, does anyone remember any of the story points?**
 - Story Point #1:** Jesus' parents were small and humble.
 - Story Point #2:** Jesus' birthplace was small and humble.
 - Story Point #3:** The first people to hear about Jesus were small and humble.
- 4.) **Awesome! And can anyone remember how this story connected to Jesus?**
 - Christ Connection:** God uses the small and humble things for His purposes.

Transition: That was awesome! Ya'll did a great job remembering. Ok let's watch the video and see if we remember anything we forgot or notice anything new this time.

WATCH THE VIDEO STORY:

Click [here](#) to watch the Gospel Project Video Story.

TALK THROUGH THE STORY POINTS:

Leader Note: If your kids are younger, it helps to give them journals. For each question, have them write their answers first and then go around the circle and share.

Leader Note: Say each story point and have the kids repeat it.

Story Point #1: Jesus' parents were small and humble.

- Teach: We don't mean that Mary and Joseph were actually physically small people, but that they were ordinary people! They weren't a king and queen (even though King David was Joseph's great (x13) granddad; they weren't famous or rich. Mary even wrote a song that was almost entirely about the fact that she was a normal, lowly person, but God chose her and blessed her.

PART 2: KIDTOWN LESSON REVIEW (CONTINUED)

Story Point #2: Jesus' birthplace was small and humble.

- Question: What was the name of the town Jesus was born in? (Bethlehem!)
- Teach: The Bible says that Bethlehem was one of the smallest towns in Judah. Is that where you would think the God of the universe would choose to be born? (No!)
- Question: Where would you think a king should be born? (Let them answer and have fun with it! Maybe in a big, important, capital city, like Washington, D.C., or New York City. And then where within that city? Probably the nicest hospital with the best doctors and nurses!)
- Question: Where was Jesus born in Bethlehem? (Where animals were kept!)

Story Point #3: The first people to hear about Jesus were small and humble.

- Question: Who were the first people to hear about Jesus? (Shepherds)
- Question: How did they hear about Jesus? (Angels appeared to them, just like they had to Mary and Joseph!)
- Question: What did the shepherds do once they went and saw Jesus? (They told others!)
- Question: Who do you think would normally be the first ones to hear about the birth of a king? (TV stations, other kings and queens, etc.)

REVIEW THE CHRIST CONNECTION AND APPLY IT:

Christ Connection: Like His parents, where He was born and the first people to hear about Him, Jesus was small and humble.

- Teach: Jesus wasn't just a king. He was God! You might think God would come to earth as a conquering king, a mighty warrior, become a president or something like that, or at least make Himself appear out of thin air as an adult, but He didn't. He came as a small, tiny, helpless little baby!

Main Application(s): God uses the small and humble things for His purposes.

- Adults: How is this good news for you?
- Adults first then kids: How have you seen God use small and humble things for His purposes?

PART 3: REFLECTION (10 minutes)

Distribute a sheet of paper to each child or tell them to get their journals. Ask the kids to write about or draw a picture to answer the following questions:

- What does this story teach me about God or about the gospel?
- What does this story teach me about myself?
- What is one thing I need to do in light of this story? (Help the kids think of ways they can grow, how they might pray for help or practical steps of repentance they can take.)

After the kids have had time to write down their reflection questions, go around the circle and share one at a time (kids and adults).

OPTIONAL - PART 3a: LESSON ACTIVITY (10 minutes)

OPTION 1: Who would you choose?

Invite kids to answer the following questions. Discuss why each kid chose the person she chose.

- If you were the captain of the football team, who would you choose to be your quarterback?
- If you were the president, who would you choose to be your vice president?
- If you were going to an amusement park, who would you choose to go with you?
- If you could go skydiving with anyone, who would you choose to jump with you?

SAY • Those were some great reasons to choose each person. There's a lot to consider when picking a person to do a job. Today we learned that God chose Mary and Joseph to be Jesus' earthly parents.

OPTION 2: Deliver the message

Invite kids to sit in a circle with you. Whisper in the ear of the kid at your right a special message, such as the story point or big picture question and answer. He will whisper in the ear of the kid next to him, who will whisper in the ear of the next kid. Continue around the circle until the message reaches the last kid, who will stand up and say the message aloud.

SAY • Each one of you got to deliver a message to your friends. Does that remind you of anyone from our story? Just like you delivered my message, the angel delivered God's message to the shepherds. And do you remember that message? Jesus was born!

OPTIONAL - PART 3b: SNACK (5 minutes)

If your group doesn't eat dinner together, now is a great time to stop for a snack break before spending time praying together and talking about living on mission. For Kidtown we keep snacks simple with Goldfish for most kids and Gummy snacks in case a kid has Gluten allergies.

OPTIONAL - PART 3c: SING (5 minutes)

Play one or more of these videos and sing and dance along!

- [Child of Glory](#)
- [O Little Town of Bethlehem](#)
- [Go Tell It On the Mountain](#)

PART 4: PRAYER TIME! (20 minutes)

PRAY FOR EACH OTHER: (10 minutes)

Vision: God calls His people to love each other, pray for each other and help each other carry burdens.

Questions to Ask (pick 1):

- How do you need prayer this week?
- What is one thing you need Jesus to help you with this week?
- What is one way you're hoping Jesus will help you grow this week?

Pray: Invite each kid to write down the other kids' prayer requests. Then have each kid pray for the person on their right!

PRAY FOR JESUS' MISSION: (10 minutes)

Vision: God calls His people to share with others the good news of Jesus. This means that we try to love others with our actions and with our words. We want all our friends to know about Jesus and His great love for them.

Questions to Ask (pick 1):

- What friends or neighbors of yours can we pray for today?
- How can you show God's love this week to someone who might not know Him?
- Who could we invite to do something fun with our LifeGroup friends this month?

Pray: Invite each kid to pray for their friends or someone else's friend to come to know Jesus. Have one adult close out the time, thanking God for how we get to be family together and asking God to bring more people into His family!