



## Family Worship Experience

— READ THE SCRIPTURE —

### JESUS WAS BORN



Watch the Bible story video or read all or parts of [Matthew 1:18-25](#); [Luke 2:1-20](#); [John 1](#) from the Bible.



## Family Worship Experience

TALK ABOUT THE SCRIPTURE

A recent trend for expecting parents is to host a gender reveal party. Friends and family gather to watch the parents-to-be cut a cake, pop a balloon, or explode a powder grenade to see what color is inside—pink for a girl or blue for a boy. No matter what the color, everyone celebrates the fact that a cute baby is coming!

When the time had come for God to send His Son into the world, the angel revealed the news to Mary and Joseph that Mary would give birth to a Son, and His name would be Jesus. Greater than any gender reveal, this was news that God's own Son coming as a light into the dark world!

When Jesus was born, God sent a host of angels to announce the birth to shepherds. They were the first to hear the good news that Jesus—the Savior—was born. The shepherds rushed to Bethlehem where they found Mary, Joseph, and Baby Jesus just as the angels told them. They shared the good news with others, and everyone was amazed! We all love to celebrate the arrival of a cute baby, but this birth was extraordinary. The shepherds celebrated because the Messiah had come!

**The birth of Jesus was good news! Jesus was not an ordinary baby. He is God's Son, sent to earth from heaven. Jesus, the promised Savior, came into the world to show us what God is like and to deliver us from sin and death.**


***Pray:** God, thank You for sending Your Son, Jesus, into our world. Help us to never forget how good this news is for us. Give us the courage to share with others that Jesus is the promised Savior who came to save us from sin and death. Amen.*



## Family Worship Experience

— LEARN SCRIPTURE —

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**John saw Jesus coming toward him and said, “Look, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world!”**

John 1:29



## Family Worship Experience

— SING SCRIPTURE —

Finish your family worship experience by playing the key passage song to worship and as a further way to memorize Scripture.



## **Family Prayer Time**

### **Mornings**

Thank God for sending His only Son into the world to save sinners. Praise Him for the fact that this was always His plan. Think about how great God's love must be to send His Son live with us and die for us. How should we respond to this love?

### **Evenings**

Praise God for first sharing the good news of Jesus' birth with shepherds. Shepherds may not have been special in their own culture, but God loved them. How does the announcement to shepherds show us God's love? How can this help us see what God thinks of us?



## **Family Activities**

### **For Fun**

Look at baby photos or videos of each family member. Share stories of joy and excitement that came with the birth of each child. Tell each child how much of a blessing they are to your family. Remind kids that Jesus' birth is good news because it blessed all of creation. He is the promised Savior who came to deliver us from sin and death.

### **To Serve**

Take the whole family shopping for baby clothing or supplies. Gift the items to an expecting mother in your church or to a local pregnancy center. Spend time praying for the families who will receive the gifts. Remind kids of the joy that came to Mary, Joseph, and the shepherds when they heard the good news of Jesus' birth.



## Family Worship Experience

— READ THE SCRIPTURE —

### JESUS WAS DEDICATED



Watch the Bible story video or read all or parts of [Matthew 2:1-23](#); [Luke 2:21-52](#) from the Bible.



## Family Worship Experience

TALK ABOUT THE SCRIPTURE

Television commercials are always making big promises. A gecko promises that 15 minutes can save you 15 percent on your car insurance, a pink bunny promises that his batteries keep going and going and going, and we've all heard the paper towels that promise to pick up messes quicker. These are great advertisements, but can we really trust what they promise?

When Simeon was an old man, he remembered the promise God had made to him. God had told Simeon that he would not die until he had seen the Messiah—the promised Savior. But could he trust this promise?

Simeon saw Jesus being dedicated at the temple and the Spirit told him that this baby is the Messiah. Simeon got to hold Jesus—the promised Savior—in his arms! Simeon rejoiced because God had kept His promise.

The promises we hear on TV or from others are often broken. While we're not that good at keeping promises, we can trust that God is always faithful to do what He says He will do! The promises of God are always perfect and there is no greater proof than the birth of Jesus—the promised One who will save people from sin!

**Throughout the Old Testament, God promised the arrival of a King who would redeem people. When Jesus arrived, Simeon and Anna knew He was the promised Messiah, God's own Son. We can trust Jesus for our salvation, and like Simeon and Anna, we should share the good news.**

***Pray:** God, You are the promise keeper! We can trust in You do what You say because You are faithful and perfect in all Your ways. Our greatest proof of Your faithfulness is that You sent Jesus just as You promised. We want to be like Simeon who looks to Jesus and recognizes Him as the One who will save people from sin! Amen.*






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- SING SCRIPTURE -

Finish your family worship experience by playing the Key Passage song to worship and as a further way to memorize Scripture.



## **Family Prayer Time**

### **Mornings**

Ask God to remind You of His promises and His ability to always keep His promises. How do the stories of God's faithfulness in the Bible help us to trust Him now?

### **Evenings**

Praise God for the peace, joy, and hope we can have in Him because He is a faithful God. Thank Him for the examples of faithfulness you read in Scripture and see in your own experiences. How does God's faithfulness give us peace and joy right now? How does God's faithfulness give us hope for the future?



## **Family Activities**

### **For Fun**

Make a promise like going out for ice cream or having a family movie night that will be fulfilled later in the week. Throughout the week, talk as a family about what it's like to wait and how waiting might make you forget or doubt the promise. As you get closer to the fulfillment of the promise, talk about the joy and anticipation each person feels. Compare all the feelings of the week to what Simeon might have felt. Remind kids that God can always be trusted to keep His promises.

### **To Serve**

Take a flower arrangement to a senior adult Bible study group. Write the words of 2 Corinthians 1:20 on a tag and attach it to the bouquet. If possible, ask members of the group to share how they have seen God's faithfulness in their life. Remind kids that God always keeps His promises.





## Family Worship Experience

— READ THE SCRIPTURE —

### JESUS WAS BAPTIZED



Watch the Bible story video or read all or parts of [Matthew 3:1-17](#); [Mark 1:1-11](#) from the Bible.



## Family Worship Experience

TALK ABOUT THE SCRIPTURE

Our big picture question asks, *What did Jesus do to save us?* The answer to this question is, *Jesus lived a sinless life, died on the cross, and rose from the dead.* The Bible tells us that anyone who believes these truths about Jesus and confesses that He is Lord will be saved. Many of those who believe will demonstrate their faith in Jesus by being baptized.

Baptism is a beautiful illustration of the three truths that we find in the answer to our big picture question. Baptism symbolizes a person's faith in Jesus as the perfect sacrifice for their sin and how His death was the punishment that should've been our own. As the person stands is immersed in the water, they are showing that Jesus' death was a substitute for their own.

As the person is raised up out of the water, it symbolizes that Jesus' resurrection has guaranteed eternal life for all who believe. Just as their sinful life is buried with Christ, the person raising from the water is showing that Jesus has given them new life! Baptism is an outward expression of how the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus brings new life to all who believe in Him!

**Jesus never sinned, but He obeyed God and was baptized like sinners are baptized. Baptism reminds us of Jesus' death and resurrection. It reminds us that when we trust in Jesus, we turn from sin and start a new life—a life lived for Jesus.**


***Pray:** Jesus, You are the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world. Through Your baptism, You showed us everything you would do to save us. Help us to understand that faith in Your life, death, and resurrection is the way to have eternal life. Amen.*



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## **Family Prayer Time**

### **Mornings**

Take time to think about the symbolism of baptism and the story it tells about Jesus' life, death, and resurrection. Thank Jesus for living a perfect life to be our righteousness. Thank Him for dying on the cross to be our substitute. Thank Him for rising again to show us that we too can have eternal life in Him.

### **Evenings**

Ask God to show you ways you can publicly share your faith with others. Like baptism is a public way of identifying with Christ, think about how your words and actions can point others to Jesus. How is baptism a way of publicly declaring our faith in Jesus? How can our words and actions declare our faith and point others to Jesus?



## **Family Activities**

### **For Fun**

Host a party or dinner for those who have been recently baptized in your church. Make time for the individuals to share their testimonies. Invite kids or adults who are wanting to be baptized to also attend. Take time to talk with them about what it means to believe in Jesus, the symbolism of baptism, and answer questions about how they can be baptized at your church.

### **To Serve**

If your church has a regular baptism service, volunteer as a family to help with the service. Take pictures, provide towels, or pray with those being baptized before the service. Remind kids of the symbolism in baptism that reminds us of the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus.



## Family Worship Experience

— READ THE SCRIPTURE —

### JESUS WAS TEMPTED



Watch the Bible story video or read all or parts of [Matthew 4:1-11](#); [Luke 4:1-13](#) from the Bible.



## Family Worship Experience

- TALK ABOUT THE SCRIPTURE -

Have you ever been tempted by the smell of freshly baked chocolate chip cookies? In 2003, the Immaculate Baking Company of North Carolina created a giant outdoor oven and baked the world's biggest cookie. The chocolate-chip monstrosity stretched 102 feet wide and weighed over 40,000 pounds! Can you imagine how big that temptation must have been?

We all understand temptation, and we have all given into temptation that causes us to sin. It might be the temptation to eat a cookie when Mom said to wait, or it could be the temptation to play a few more minutes of video games when we are supposed to turn it off. As hard as we might try, we all fall into the temptation to sin. That's why we need Jesus!

When He was tempted by Satan, Jesus used the Word of God to do battle with the enemy. Jesus did not give in, and He remained perfect and righteous. The Word of God—the Bible—can help us to avoid sin and flee from temptation, but we have an even greater defense. The Gospel of John says that Jesus is the Word made flesh. All who believe in Jesus have been set free from the power of sin and given the power to say no to temptation. He is the perfect, righteous Savior who came to battle sin and defeat it for good!

**Jesus was tempted, but He trusted God and never sinned. Jesus is perfect and righteous. A perfect sacrifice was required to take away sin. Jesus was that perfect sacrifice. He died on the cross to free us from sin and to give us the power to say no to temptation.**

***Pray:** Jesus, You are the Word who came to live with people. You used the Word to overcome Satan's temptations, and now we see that You are the Word whose sacrifice has forever defeated sin. When we face temptation, help us look to You as our rescue from sin and our source of power to say no to sin. Amen.*





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## **Family Prayer Time**

### **Mornings**

Ask Jesus to be the Word who guards you against temptation today. Ask for His power to stand against sin and for His forgiveness when you stumble. How does the presence of the Holy Spirit help believers battle temptation?

### **Evenings**

Thank God for His Word—the Bible—which teaches us how much He loves us and wants us to obey Him. Thank Him for the wisdom the Bible gives to help us battle against sin. Most of all, thank Him for Jesus—the hero of the Bible—who offers forgiveness of sin to all who believe in Him.



## **Family Activities**

### **For Fun**

Bake cookies for the family. Allow each family member to eat one cookie but set aside the rest of the batch to eat later in the week. During the week of waiting, acknowledge the temptation to eat the cookie. Talk with kids about how sin looks and feels enticing to us, but it always leads to consequences. Remind kids that Jesus has defeated sin and given all who believe in Him the power to say no to sin.

### **To Serve**

Memorize John 1:1-5 this week. Starting with the first verse, work as a family to add a verse each day until everyone memorizes the entire passage. Talk with kids about how Jesus used the Word to battle Satan's temptation and how He is the Word who conquered sin for us.



## Family Worship Experience

— READ THE SCRIPTURE —

### JESUS CALLED HIS DISCIPLES



Watch the Bible story video or read all or parts of [John 1:29-51](#) from the Bible.



## Family Worship Experience

- TALK ABOUT THE SCRIPTURE -

Have you ever played follow-the-leader? In the game, one person is the leader and the rest of the group must imitate whatever actions he does first. If the leader jumps up and down, then the group must jump up and down. If the leader clucks like a chicken, the everyone else must also cluck like a chicken. The point of the game is to pay special attention to the leader and mimic what he does.

Thinking about the rules of this game helps us understand what Jesus meant when He said to the disciples, “Follow Me.” Jesus invited them to walk with Him and watch Him teach people about the kingdom of God. Along the way, Jesus also taught them and showed them how He is the Son of God. Then, Jesus gave them power and the task to share in the work of telling others about the kingdom of God.

Later on, these followers of Jesus had the opportunity to tell the world the good news about Jesus’ life, death, and resurrection. The small group of disciples led to hundreds of followers; and after Jesus’ resurrection, the numbers grew into the thousands! Today, millions and even billions of people have received the invitation to trust in Jesus and follow Him.

**Jesus, the Son of God and true King of Israel, came to earth to show what God is like and to save people from their sins. He called disciples to follow Him. We are Jesus’ disciples when we trust in Him. We can invite everyone to come and see the good news about Jesus.**

***Pray:** Jesus, You are the Son of God. You are the King who lived a perfect life, died as a sacrifice for sin, and rose again as the King above all kings. You have people to trust in You and become Your disciple. Help us to believe in that good news and to share it with the world who needs to hear it. Amen.*



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## **Family Prayer Time**

### **Mornings**

Think about the invitation Jesus gave when He said, “Follow Me.” Ask Him to give you courage to accept the invitation and strength to continue following Him even when it’s difficult. What does it mean to follow Jesus? How does accepting His invitation change our priorities?

### **Evenings**

Praise God for the promise that when we share the gospel and teach others from His Word, it always fulfills His purposes. The Bible is powerful, and the truth of Jesus can change lives. Pray for those who have never heard and for those who have never believed to be changed for the good news about Jesus.



## **Family Activities**

### **For Fun**

Host a family dance party. Call out the name of a family member to show off their unique dance moves and have the rest of the family imitate those moves. Allow each family member to lead the dance party at least once. Talk with kids about what it means to be a follower of Jesus. Remind them that it begins with faith in Him and leads us to a mission of telling others about Him.

### **To Serve**

Pray for unreached people groups around the world. Visit [JoshuaProject.net](http://JoshuaProject.net) to learn about people groups who have limited or no access to the good news about Jesus. Pray for the people, for missionaries who are attempting to reach those people and for the people to understand and believe the good news of Jesus.





## Family Worship Experience

— READ THE SCRIPTURE —

### JESUS CAME TO BE THE SACRIFICE FOR SIN



Watch the Bible story video or read all or parts of [Hebrews 10](#) from the Bible.



## Family Worship Experience

### TALK ABOUT THE SCRIPTURE

What are some ways you help out around the house? How often do you clean your room? What if, instead of cleaning the room as you should, you just shove the toys, dirty clothes, and everything else under the bed? Then, you put a large blanket over the bed to cover the mess that is hiding underneath. While the room looks clean, the mess is still there!

The sacrifices of the Old Testament were necessary but incomplete. The New Testament says that it is impossible for the blood of the animals to take away sin. (Heb. 10:4) Like the messy room that looked clean but would still need to be cleaned again, these sacrifices had to be made over and over again. They pointed forward to a greater sacrifice that was coming. (Heb. 10:1)

Jesus' sacrifice was different. Jesus was the perfect Lamb of God whose death canceled the debt of sin once and for all. The Bible says that the sins of those who believe in Jesus will never be remembered again. Their sin has been forgiven, taken away, and erased forever! Everyone who trusts in Jesus receives pure hearts to live with God and for God.

**Jesus came to be the sacrifice for sin. He lived a sinless life, died on the cross, and rose from the dead. In Him, we have complete forgiveness once and for all.**

***Pray:** Jesus, Your sacrifice is the once-and-for-all payment for our sin. You died on the cross to take the punishment we deserved, and You were raised from the grave to defeat sin and death forevermore. Thank You for giving Your life to save us from sin and for creating a pure heart in everyone who believes in You. Amen.*



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## **Family Prayer Time**

### **Mornings**

Praise God that the sacrifice of Jesus was enough to remove all sin from those who believe in Him. How was Jesus' sacrifice different from the Old Testament sacrifices?

### **Evenings**

Ask God for His help in living with a pure heart that loves Him and honors Him. Ask the Spirit to remind you of all the things Jesus said and did for you so that your affection for Him will increase. How does knowing we are loved by Jesus help us to love Him? How does loving Jesus lead us to obedience?



## **Family Activities**

### **For Fun**

Give kids supplies to wash the family car or your home's windows. Encourage them to have fun while they work together to clean. After the cleaning is finished, read 1 John 1:9 for kids. Discuss how the sacrifice of Jesus perfectly and fully washes away sin.

### **To Serve**

Wear gloves and pick up trash or debris from alongside a road or park trail. As you remove the trash, reminds kids of how the sacrifice of Jesus is a once-for-all payment for sin. His sacrifice did not just cover sin, but it has fully removed the sin of those who trust in Him and given them a new life to live with God and for God.