

THE FIRST CHRISTMAS

1. Christmas is the birthday of Jesus Christ. He was born over 2000 years ago in a small town in Israel, called Bethlehem. Every year, people all around the world celebrate Jesus' birthday on December 25th. Here is the story of His birth.

2. A young lady named Mary was about to be married to a man named Joseph. One day an angel came and told her that she was going to have a baby. The angel told her that Joseph would not be the baby's father but that the power of the Holy Spirit would come upon her. Mary was told to call her son, "Jesus."



3. At the time just before Jesus was to be born, the Roman ruler in Israel made everyone return to the place where they were born. They had to go there to pay their taxes. Joseph and Mary had to travel from their home to the town of Bethlehem.

4. When they arrived in Bethlehem, they found that all the rooms in the inn (hotel) were full. There was no place for them to stay. But one innkeeper let them stay in his barn and that night Jesus was born – in the barn.



5. Out on the hills near Bethlehem, some shepherds were taking care of their sheep that night. They became very afraid when an angel came and talked to them. The angel said to them, "Don't be afraid. I have good news for you and for all people on earth." Then the angel told the shepherds that someone very special had been born that night. The angel told them that the baby was Jesus Christ who would free people from the power of sin in their lives.



6. The angel also told the shepherds that Jesus had been born in a barn among the animals. Then many angels came and sang, "God is great! Peace to the people on the earth." After the angels left and went back to Heaven, the shepherds went to look for baby Jesus, his mother and Joseph.

7. The shepherds found Mary, Joseph and baby Jesus in the barn just as the angels had told them. Then they went around the town and told everyone they met that God's Son Jesus Christ had been born that night!



Luke 1:26-31,35; Luke 2:3-17

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VOCABULARY FROM OUR LESSON

1. about to be married _____
2. angel _____
3. power of the Holy Spirit _____
4. pay taxes _____
5. arrived _____
6. inn / innkeeper _____
7. barn _____
8. shepherds _____
9. Don't be afraid _____
- 10.. good news of great joy _____
11. special _____
12. free people from the power of sin _____
13. peace to the people on the earth _____



Did you understand the story?

Fill in the Blanks:

1. Christmas is the birthday of _____.
2. Jesus' mother's name was _____.
3. An _____ told Mary that she was going to have a baby.
4. Mary married a man named _____.
5. An angel told the _____ that Jesus was born in Bethlehem.

Questions:

1. Why did Mary and Joseph travel to Bethlehem?
2. What problem did they have when they got to Bethlehem?
3. Where did they spend the night?
4. Where was Jesus born? (Give 3 answers)
5. Why were the shepherds afraid?
6. What did the angel tell the shepherds?
 - a. Do not _____.
 - b. I have _____ for you.
7. Who is Jesus? What did the angel say He would do for people?



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