



REFERENCES: LUKE 2:8-14; *THE DESIRE OF AGES*, PP. 47-49.

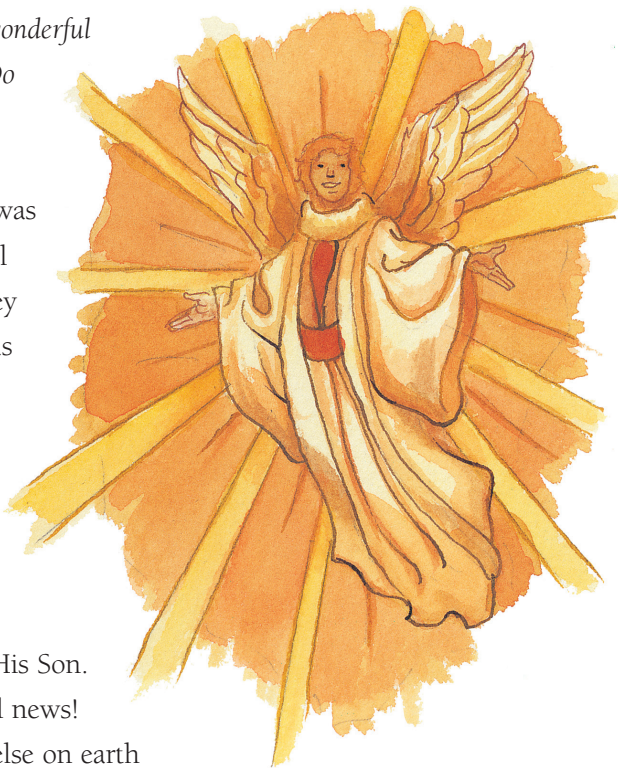
The First Christmas Song

What do you do when something really wonderful happens? Do you want to tell someone else? Do you ever feel like singing?

The night Jesus was born was a very special night for all the angels in heaven. They watched excitedly as Jesus was born in a stable, and as His mother, Mary, tenderly wrapped Him and laid Him in the manger. They couldn't keep quiet a minute longer. God

had just given the world the precious gift of His Son. It was wonderful news!

But no one else on earth knew about the marvelous thing that had just happened. No one was there to welcome Jesus, the newborn King. The angels wanted to share their happiness with someone, but whom would they tell?



Memory Verse

“Every perfect gift is from God.”

JAMES 1:17, ICB.

The Message

Jesus is God's precious gift to us.

That night shepherds watched over their sheep on a hillside near the city. Perhaps, the shepherds were talking with each other about the promise God had given them so long ago. They knew that God had promised to send a Savior, and, like many in Israel, they prayed that He would come soon.

Suddenly the shepherds saw a bright light. They had probably never seen anything shining so brightly at night, and it frightened them. Then they heard a voice as they looked up. The bright light was an angel!

“Do not be afraid,” said the angel. “I bring you good news of great joy. Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; He is Christ the Lord. You will find Him wrapped in cloths and lying in a manger.”

Suddenly the sky was bright with hundreds of glorious angels. They sang a song unlike any the shepherds had ever heard. The shepherds watched and listened in amazement.

“Glory to God in the highest,
And on earth, peace to all people.”

The angels were so happy to share the news of Jesus’ birth! Their beautiful song flowed from hearts brimming over with joy. It was a song of praise for the precious gift of Jesus.

That was the very first Christmas song. Today we still sing songs about Jesus’ birth. Let’s thank God for the precious gift of His Son, Jesus.



Do and Say

SABBATH

Each day this week read the lesson story and use the following to review the memory verse:

“Every perfect . . . Pretend to hold a gift. gift

is from God.” . . . Point upward.

James 1:17. Palms together; then open as if opening a book.

SUNDAY

Help your child share a Nativity picture with someone. Tell that person that Jesus is God’s precious gift to us. Let your child share the story of Baby Jesus (assist as needed). Pray for that person today.

MONDAY

Help your child make and wrap a simple gift and give it to someone. Help them tell that person that Jesus is God’s precious gift to us.



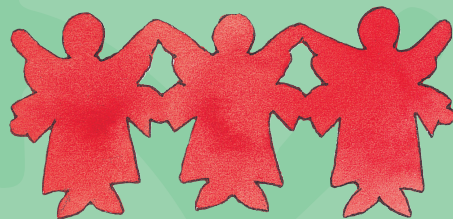
Look at Christmas lights. What do they remind us of from the story of Jesus’ birth? (the star or stars, the angel or angels)

TUESDAY

Help your child read the pictures in the lesson story and count the shepherds, the sheep, and the angels. Thank Jesus for making animals for us to enjoy.

WEDNESDAY

Make a paper chain of angels to remind your child that the angels sang at Jesus’ birth.



(Fold a length of paper several times, draw an angel shape, and cut around it. Be careful to leave the folded side uncut in several places. Unfold the paper and show the angel chain to your child.) Thank Jesus for angels that watch over us as they watched over Baby Jesus.

THURSDAY

Help your child make a sheep to remind them of the lesson story. Cut a large oval for the body, a small triangle for the head, and four long narrow rectangles for the legs. Glue the pieces together, then glue cotton balls all over. Use a black crayon or marker to make eyes, nose, and mouth. Thank Jesus for the shepherds who worshipped Baby Jesus.

FRIDAY

Tell your child where he or she was born and look at pictures from that time. Sing songs about Jesus’ birth. Thank God for Jesus and for the joy your child brings to your life.