

## Volume 8 Adult/Kids Connections (SUM 2014)

### Unit 24, Session 1: Jesus Was Born

*Luke 2:1-20*

#### **Christ Connection:**

**Preschool:** Jesus was born! This was very good news! Jesus was not like other babies. He is God's Son. God sent Jesus to earth from heaven. Jesus came into the world to save people from their sins. Jesus came to be their King.

**Kids:** The birth of Jesus was good news! Jesus was not an ordinary baby. He is God's Son, sent to earth from heaven. Jesus came into the world to save people from their sins and to be their King.

**Adult Connection Point:** The Seventh Commandment forbids adultery and thereby emphasizes the goodness of sex within the marriage covenant. Sexual immorality distorts the picture of the gospel and becomes an idol that controls our behavior. In Scripture, God often describes His relationship with His people in terms of a marriage covenant. The expectation is love and fidelity. God is faithful and constantly pursuing His people, but His people "cheat" on Him by running after idols. Accordingly, God called the prophets of the Old Testament to remind the people of Israel of their covenant relationship with Him, often sending them to warn of impending judgment if they did not repent of their spiritual adultery and return to their covenant Lord. The people of Israel's unfaithfulness eventually resulted in God sending them into exile. And while God restored the people to their land at some point, their inclination to commit spiritual adultery was never really taken care of or resolved until Jesus came to die for His people's adultery and give them new hearts.

The problem has been—and still is—that none of God's people have been entirely faithful to their covenant Husband and Lord. We are all guilty of spiritual adultery and need to repent. The good news of the gospel is that the demand of the law, that all who are guilty of adultery (of any kind) deserve punishment, is met by Jesus, the virgin-born Messiah and innocent Lamb who died on the cross for our sins. No matter how bad you've messed up, you can find forgiveness in Christ.

#### **Family Devotion:**

Materials: bathrobes, towels, rope, stuffed animals, baby doll

Inform your family they will be performing a play using Luke 2 as the narrative. Allow family members to choose a person from the Bible story and to find articles of clothes to dress as him or her. One person can read Luke 2:1-20 while they others act out the Bible story. When you are finished, call up each Bible times person and introduce him. Insist each member take a bow while the others applaud.

Review important facts you learned about Jesus in this passage. Emphasize that Jesus was given the names *Savior* and *Christ*. He was born to save each of person from his sins. Also, the angels identified exactly where the baby was to be born—in a manger in Bethlehem.

Read Luke 2:19. Ask: “What things do you think Mary treasured in her heart about the birth of Jesus?”

Remind your kids that this was the moment the Jews had been waiting for. A Savior had been promised. The prophet Malachi said Jesus was to be born in Bethlehem by a young mom. The time had finally come and God’s Son, Jesus, came into the world. It was good news then and it is still good news today. Sing some Christmas songs from this quarter’s curriculum or from your personal music library.

Pray, thanking God for sending His Son, Jesus, to come to earth and save us from our sins and be our King.