

Q2

CHRISTMAS

No Room in the Inn

2nd-3rd

PursueGODkids.org

Lesson Overview

In today's lesson, we're going to talk about the day Jesus was born! It was a special day because it was the day God came to be with us. Do you remember his nickname from last week? Jesus is Immanuel which means "God with us". Now, you would think that Jesus would choose to be born in a fancy hotel. He's God so he should have the best. Nope. That wasn't the case at all. Mary and Joseph, Jesus' parents, were traveling a long way when it was time for Jesus to be born. So, they found an inn to stay in for the night. Well, the inn was full of other travelers so they had to stay in a barn. This is where Jesus was born- a stinky barn full of animals. And, he didn't even have a nice crib to sleep in that night. He was put in a manger which was a feeding trough for the animals. Can you imagine how dirty and smelly? Yuck! We can learn an important lesson from this story. The inn keeper didn't make room for Jesus. He didn't understand who he was. Let's not let that be true of us. We know that Jesus is God who came to save us from our sins so let's make room for him in our hearts. Let's make Jesus our first priority, not our last.

Big Idea

We should make room in our hearts for Jesus.

Key Question

How can we make Jesus a priority in our lives?

Memory Verse

Luke 2:7 "She gave birth to her firstborn son. She wrapped him snugly in strips of cloth and laid him in a manger, because there was no lodging available for them."

Classroom Agenda

1. (5 min) **Let kids start working on Activity Page #1.**
2. (5 min) **WARM UP: Describe the coolest hotel you've ever stayed in on vacation.** (Tip: Maybe it had a cool pool or an arcade. Jesus didn't have a nice place to stay when he was born.)
3. (5 min) **PREVIEW: Write out the Big Idea, Memory Verse, and Key Question on a whiteboard.** Have the kids copy it down on Activity Page #1 (if applicable).
4. (20 min) **LARGE GROUP: Gather for songs and videos with other kids.** Then return to class to finish this guide.
5. (2 min) **RECAP: Read the Lesson Overview (see above).**
6. (3 min) **KQ: Answer the Key Question.** (Answer: **We need to do things that make us think of Jesus.** (Think about what you do in a typical day. You go to school, do homework, eat, and play. Well, we need to make time for Jesus, too. We need to read the Bible, pray, and go to church. These things help us to make Jesus a priority and they help us to remember how awesome Jesus is and all he's done for us.)
 - **Bonus Questions:** Why should Jesus be a priority? What are some things we can do to spend time with Jesus? **4-5th** What is likely to happen if we don't make Jesus a priority in our lives?
7. (5 min) **EXPLORE: Read [Philippians 2:5-8](#). According to this passage, what all did Jesus give up when he came to earth? What can we learn from the attitude of Jesus?** (Answer: Jesus left the comforts of heaven to come down to be with us. He gave up his rights as God and humbled himself to be born in a stinky place and worked as a carpenter for much of his life. He eventually died a criminal's death to save us all. Jesus showed humility in those choices and he did it all because he loves us. We should be humble and loving, too.)
8. (10 min) **PLAY: Choose a group activity from Activity Page #2.**
9. (5 min) **CLOSE: Share prayer requests and pray as a class.** Encourage kids to use the Family Guide at home with their parents - and remind them to go online to pursueGODkids.org to find this week's lesson video.

Teacher instructions: Choose an activity for your classroom.

OPTION 1: JINGLE BELL TOSS

Instructions:

- Before class, tape one line on the floor and take 10 red solo cups and write the following point values:
 - 1 cup: 20 pts.
 - 2 cups: 15 pts.
 - 3 cups: 10 pts.
 - 4 cups: 5 pts.
- Before playing, set up the cups to look like a Christmas tree, 20pt. cut at top, 2 15 pts as next row and so on. Divide the class into two teams. Give each kid a small jingle bell. Have teams alternate taking turns stepping up to the line and trying to land their bell into one of the cups. Whichever cup the bell lands in, is the point value they earn for that round. Keep track of each team's points. The team with the most points wins.

Supplies needed: Tape, 10 red solo cups

OPTION 2: MANGER ORNAMENT

Instructions:

- Give each kid a Manger template (page 5) and 2 craft sticks.
- Give each kid a small piece of brown construction paper and some raffia.
- First, have the kids cross the craft sticks to make a "V" shape and have them glue the sticks together. Then have them cut the piece of brown construction paper to fit the gap between the sticks. They may need to cut to size and have them glue the paper to the back, lower part of the sticks. Then have them glue baby Jesus' face to the back middle part of the paper to make it look like Jesus is in his manger
- Then have them glue the phrase to the front of the construction paper and have them glue some pieces of raffia to the back side of the paper around baby Jesus to make it look like he's lying in hay.

- Then, have them glue longer pieces of raffia to the top back side of the top of the sticks to make an ornament so they can hang it on their tree.
- As they work, read the story of Jesus' birth from Luke 2:1-12. Remind the kids that Jesus was born in a stinky barn because there was no room in the inn. We need to make sure we make room in our hearts for Jesus and make him a priority.

Supplies needed: Manger template (pg. 5, pre cut, 1 set per kid), Craft sticks (2 per kid), Brown construction paper, Glue, Raffia



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When Mary and Joseph tried to find place to stay in Bethlehem, there was no room for them in the inn.

Key Points:

- There was no room in the _____ . Luke 2:7
- _____ came to be with us. Matthew 1:23
- We should make room in our _____ for Jesus!

Memory Verse:

Luke 2:7 She gave birth to her firstborn son. She wrapped him snugly in strips of cloth and laid him in a manger, because there was no lodging available for them.

Talk About It

1. *What's your favorite part of the video? What's one thing you learned from it?*
2. *Describe the coolest hotel you've ever stayed in on vacation.*
3. *What happened when Mary and Joseph showed up at the inn?*
4. *Why do you think Jesus chose to be born in a barn instead of a nice hotel?*
5. *Read Philippians 2:5-8. According to this passage, what all did Jesus give up when he came to earth? What can we learn from the attitude of Jesus?*
6. *How will you apply this lesson to your life this week?*

Instructions: Solve the puzzles.

Find your way through the maze.

Merry Christmas

Church House Collection ©

Big Idea

Key Question

Memory Verse

Luke 2:___ "She gave _____ to her firstborn _____. She wrapped him snugly in strips of _____ and laid him in a _____, because there was _____ lodging available for them."

UNSCRAMBLE THE WORDS

- | | |
|--------------------|------------------|
| 1. NNI _____ | 8. RTAS _____ |
| 2. ESEHHDPSR _____ | 9. NYOKDE _____ |
| 3. HWORISP _____ | 10. YABB _____ |
| 4. JHOPSE _____ | 11. RMGENA _____ |
| 5. TEHMHELBE _____ | 12. SSJEU _____ |
| 6. YMRA _____ | 13. IGFST _____ |
| 7. LATESB _____ | 14. AGLSEN _____ |

Mary
Joseph
manger
star

stable
donkey
worship
shepherds

inn
Jesus
Bethlehem
baby

angels
gifts

