

Week 14

The Savior Is Coming!

For many years, God's prophets said a Savior would come to take away our sins. Finally, the time was right. God sent an angel to Mary to announce that she would have a baby. This baby would be named Jesus, for He would be the Savior of all.

One day, the king (Caesar) commanded that people should go to the city where their families had come from. He wanted to count the people so he could have them pay taxes.

Many people went to Bethlehem. Mary and Joseph went to Bethlehem too. There were so many people in the little village, Mary and Joseph could not find a place to stay. "I'm sorry, but I have no room," said an innkeeper.

Finally, someone told Joseph and Mary that they could stay in a stable. It was a barn for cows and sheep, but it was warm and dry. At last, Mary and Joseph lay down to sleep.

(*) A wonderful thing happened in the stable that night. Baby Jesus was born! God helped Mary and Joseph take good care of the little baby. Mary wrapped soft cloths around Jesus to keep Him warm.

Joseph and Mary laid baby Jesus in a manger. The manger, a straw-filled box that animals ate from, was His bed. Baby Jesus was God's gift to the whole world.

Fold the family letter back so your child can focus on the big picture as you tell the Bible story. At the point in the story indicated by an asterisk (), fold the picture strip forward, overlapping part of the big picture. Talk about what has changed in the picture as you continue the story.*

Think about It

Read about baby Jesus in your Bible. The story is found in Luke 2:1-7. God took good care of this family. He takes care of your family too. Name some people whom God sends to help take care of you.

Bible Words

My spirit rejoices in
God my Savior.

Luke 1:47



Dear Family,

Before the birth of a child, in spite of all the plans and purchases, parents are unlikely to lose sight of whom they are preparing for. Likewise, at Christmas, as we prepare to celebrate the birth of the Christ Child, let's not lose sight of whom we are preparing for. In the midst of the plans and purchases, keep your focus on the true meaning of Christmas. Take time out from shopping and decorating to relax and prepare your heart for the Christ Child. Read more about this lesson on pages 269-271 in *The Story Bible*, available from Concordia Publishing House (CPH).

As a family, use an Advent calendar or Advent wreath that celebrates our Lord coming to our world and to our hearts to save us eternally. To count down the days, make a paper chain with each link representing one day until Christmas. Remove a link each day after you read a Bible verse from Luke 2 and say a prayer, as you count off the days until Christmas Day.

