

Jesus God Who Came to Earth

Lesson One: The Savior is Born!

Character Review

- ◆ **God the Father** is faithful and trustworthy. He always keeps His promises.
- ◆ **Jesus, God the Son** did what He said He would do. Jesus shows the character of diligence, carrying out his mission to seek and save the lost: living a perfect life, dying for our sins and rising from the dead.
- ◆ **The child:**
 - I will honor God by accepting Jesus Christ as my Savior and diligently loving, walking with, and serving Him with all my heart, mind, and strength. Like God the Father and God the Son, I want to be known as a person who does what I say I will do.
 - Since every person without God is lost, I want to show and tell them how Jesus can change their lives like He changed mine.

Just like God the Father and God the Son did what they said they would do, *God wants you and me to do what we say we will do.* He wants us to do those things willingly and do them well, as a way of honoring Him. (*Read Colossians 3:23.*) In this way, we are being *diligent*. We can honor God and imitate Jesus Christ by being diligent, whether by keeping a promise, completing an assignment or helping clean up around our home.

- ◆ Who do you know who needs to know about Jesus? Can you share with your words what He did to show His love for your family or friends? Will your attitudes and your actions match your words? Will you diligently love, obey, and serve Him with all your heart, mind, and strength? *

*Skip Garmo, author of *Character Solutions: Christlikeness Bible Guide*, shares insights on character for each of our lessons which are woven throughout this section reviewing our textbook from CEF.

Pre-Club Activity Option

Waiting and Not Being Afraid

Bring a 15-foot string or yarn to club to represent a timeline. Have folded cards ready to drape over as event markers to the time line that the students hold up in front of the class. (handout provided)

How much longer? Are we there yet?

How long do you wait for:

- School to get out for the day? 6 hours?
- A long trip to be completed? A week?
- A baby brother or sister to be born? 9 months?
- School to be finished? 12 years? Then add college.
- A person to complete their days on the earth? About 80 years?
- Christmas to come? 3 months? 12 months? Try about 8,000 years.

Since Genesis 3:15 people waited for Jesus to be born, for about 8,000 years.

Why does God make us wait?

Let's think about it. What happens when we wait?

- During the school day think of all the things you learned: to read and write and work math problems.
- On a trip you get to see so many new things, the world outside, and meet new people.
- While you wait for a brother or sister to be born, God is forming him or her in just His perfect way.

- During all your years of school you are growing not only physically, but in your understanding and experience.
- During your years on earth you can do so much good. You can care for others and bring joy to them. You can hear about Jesus and know that He is the true God and Savior. You can live your life in the power of God the Holy Spirit to bring honor and glory to His great Name.
- While you wait for Christmas you can hear the true Christmas story and learn something new about it every year. While people waited for Jesus to be born, they learned to listen to and follow God. They also learned the consequences of not listening to God. They learned about God's patience, His justice and love. They also learned that He always does what He says He is going to do.

Word Up: God Keeps His Promises!

Did you know that God waits for you? II Peter 3:8-10 says: *... with the Lord one day is as a thousand years, and a thousand years as one day. ⁹ The Lord is not slow to fulfill his promise as some count slowness, but is patient toward you,^(a) not wishing that any should perish, but that all should reach repentance. ¹⁰ But the day of the Lord will come...*

NOW we wait for Jesus' return to take us to be with Him. God used angels to tell about Jesus' coming the first time to be born as a baby. God wants to use US to tell others about His return as the victorious King. When Jesus left the earth He said, I go to prepare a place for you...I will come again and take you with me... John 14:2-3. Are you ready to hear the **real** Christmas story so that you can tell others about Jesus?

Rhyming Review

1. The angel Gabriel told Mary she would have a son. The promised Savior would finally come.
2. Gabriel told Mary how different her Son would be: the promised Savior, the Son of God and ruling forever, all would see.
3. The angel told Joseph to take Mary for his wife. God had a special plan for his life.
4. The angel told Mary, Joseph and the shepherds to not be afraid. They understood better when, in the manger the baby was laid.
5. Even though waiting for Jesus was a very long wait, at just the right time, God sent His Son. He would not be late.
6. The shepherds told everyone Jesus was born. It was a great time of rejoicing that first Christmas morn.

Naming the babies:

