

Imagine

Year 2, Unit 3, Christmas

show and share

Angels and Shepherds Welcome Jesus

PREVIEW



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One Starry Night

Based on Luke 2:1-20

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It was nighttime. The sky had filled up with beautiful, bright, twinkling stars. Mary and Joseph had arrived in Bethlehem, tired from their long trip. But they couldn't find a place to stay anywhere! "Sorry, there's no room here," came the answer at every house. At last a kind innkeeper gave them a place in his shed. And that very night baby Jesus was born. Joseph piled hay in the animals' feeding box, and Mary wrapped her precious baby in soft cloths and laid him gently in the hay. It was a manger-bed for baby Jesus, God's own Son.

Outside, in the night sky, the stars still twinkled. And in the fields underneath the night sky, a group of shepherds sat watching their sheep, making sure they were safe. Suddenly a brilliant light—far brighter than the stars—filled the sky. The shepherds noticed, and they shook with fright! They held on to each other as they peeked up at the amazing light. And then they saw it—an angel from God!

"Don't be afraid!" said the angel. "I have joyful news for you and for everyone. Tonight, in Bethlehem, a Savior has

been born. He is Christ the Lord! Go see for yourselves. You'll find him wrapped in soft cloths and lying in a manger."

And then, everywhere the shepherds looked, angels filled the night sky and sang, "Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace to people everywhere." The shepherds could hardly believe their eyes—or their ears!

Then, just as suddenly as they came, the angels left. "Let's go!" the shepherds shouted to each other. "Let's go to Bethlehem and see the baby that God has sent."

They raced toward Bethlehem, straight to the little shed where they found Mary and Joseph with baby Jesus. The angels were right! The shepherds felt amazed, happy, and excited all at the same time—but most of all they felt like praising God! And like telling other people the good news.

So they did—all the way back to the hills where their sheep waited on that starry night.

Dear Family:

Celebrate Jesus' birth as you read this story together.

Memory



Challenge:

1 John 4:19



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Matthew Follows Jesus



Based on Luke 5:27-32



was a tax collector. He took



from people.

Too much



! That made people



. One

day



came to visit



while he was collecting



looked right at



and said, "Follow me."



said "I will!"

PREVIEW

Then



gave a big party for all of his



so

they could meet



too.



knew that Jesus loved his



—even if they were tax collectors. Everyone

was



Well, not quite everyone! Some people were



Why did



go to a party with people like



and his

tax collector



? "This is terrible!" they said.

But



said, "I have come for all people who need me to

love and forgive them. I want



to follow me."

Jesus wants all kinds of people to love him and follow him. Here are some people who love and follow Jesus. Draw their faces and color them. Draw your own face and color it too!



PREVIEW



Is there someone you could tell about Jesus? Draw their face in the box below. Maybe you could invite them to church next week!

PREVIEW

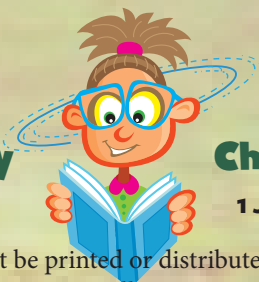
Help Matthew find the path to Jesus. Move from one shape to the next by following the same shape.



Dear Family,

Today we heard a story from Luke 5:27-32 about how Jesus invited Matthew (also known as Levi) to follow him. Read the story together and have your child fill in the words represented by pictures. Do you know anyone who doesn't know Jesus? Talk together about how you could share Jesus' love with that person. And pray for opportunities to do so! For more fun activities, see card 91 in your God's Big Story cards set.

Memory



Challenge:

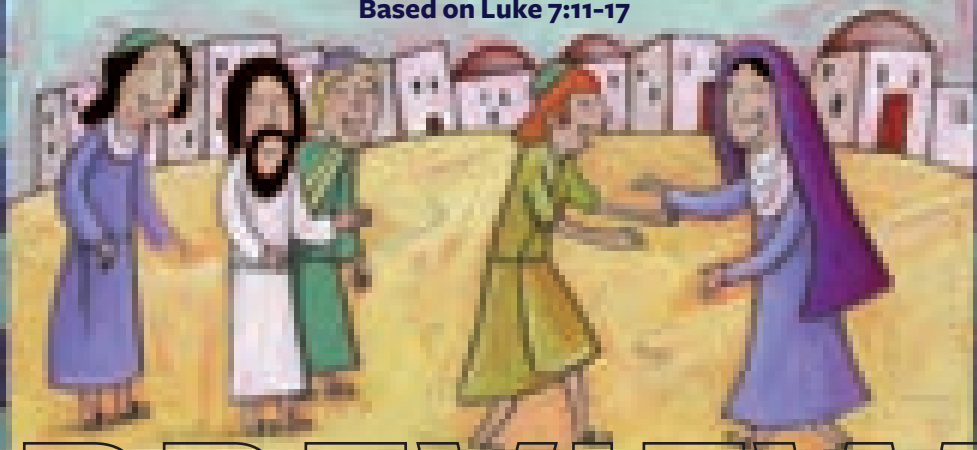
1 John 4:19

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A Crowd Praises Jesus

Based on Luke 7:11-17



PREVIEW

One ordinary day, as Jesus and his followers walked along the dusty road, they saw a crowd of people coming toward them through the city gates. Jesus and his friends heard the people crying. They saw tears of sadness were flowing down people's faces too. Then Jesus and his disciples discovered the saddest face of all—a mother whose son had died.

The mother's tears told Jesus that she was feeling alone and afraid—and very, very sad. Her son was the only person she had left to love and care for her. And now her son was dead.

Jesus looked at the dead son being carried to his grave by the crowd. As Jesus watched the tears trickle down the mother's cheeks, he felt her great sadness in his own heart. Gently he said to her, "Don't cry."

Then Jesus did an amazing thing! He walked close to the dead son and spoke to him. "Young man, get up!" Jesus said. At that very moment, the young man sat up and began to talk! He was alive again.

The mother could hardly believe her eyes! In an instant Jesus had changed her heart from so very sad to so incredibly happy. The people were amazed and happy too!

The whole crowd walked happily back to the city, laughing, clapping, and praising God for the wonderful love and power of Jesus. And everywhere they went, they told others what Jesus had done on that ordinary—and amazing—day.

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Dear Family:

Before reading the story on page 1, invite your child to tell you the story using the inside pages and the story figures he or she brought home. Spend time talking about the ways Jesus has shown your family his tenderness and his great power!

Use these actions to help learn the Memory Challenge. Visit dwellcurriculum.org to hear part of the song we've been singing to help us learn this verse.

PREVIEW

WE
FIRST



LOVED



dwell

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Memory



Challenge:

1 John 4:19

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Jesus and a Thankful Man



Play Thankful Tic-Tac-Toe! Each person will need five buttons or coins as markers. Before a player puts their marker on a square he or she must name something for which they are thankful in that category. First player to get three markers in a row wins.



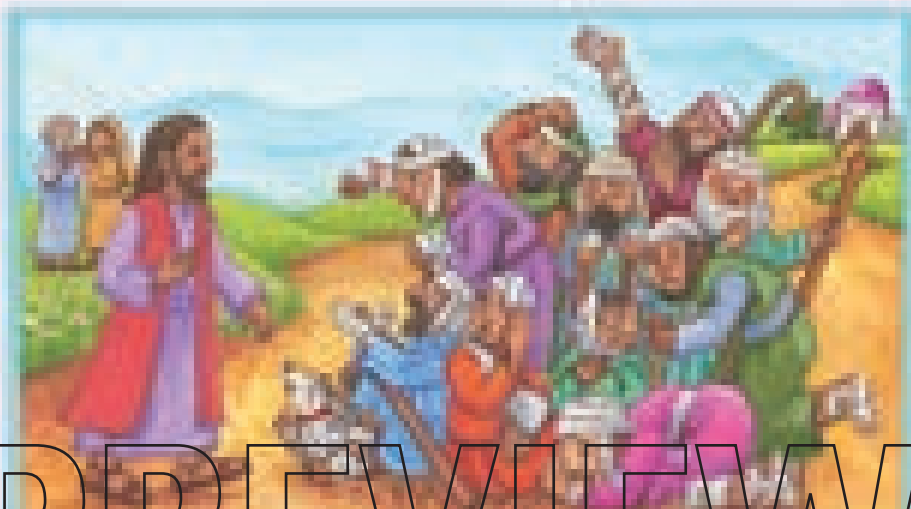
PREVIEW

A food	Something outdoors	A place
A friend	A person	An activity
A relative	A thing	A toy



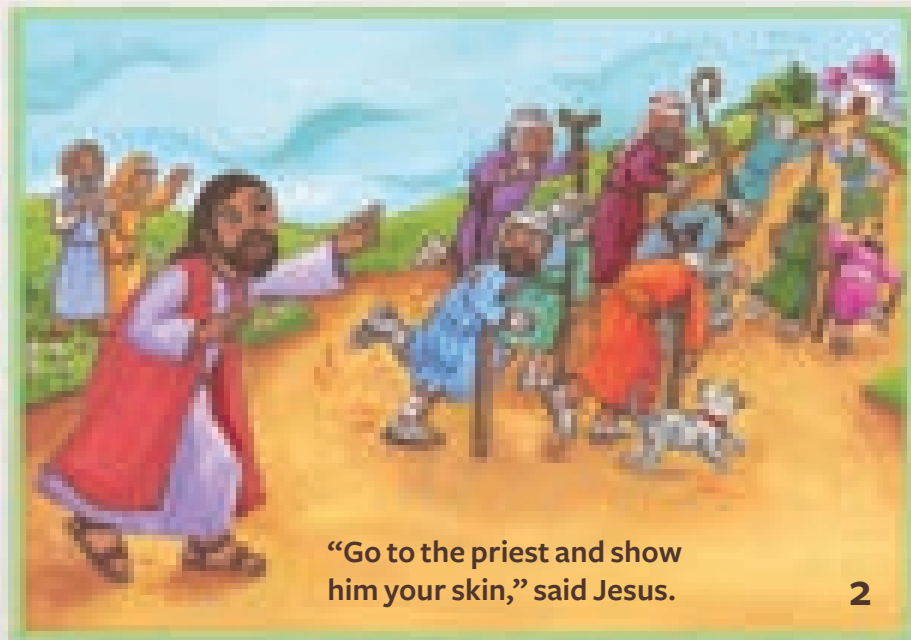
One Came Back

Based on Luke 17:11-19



Ten men with leprosy saw Jesus.
“Jesus, please help us,” they begged.

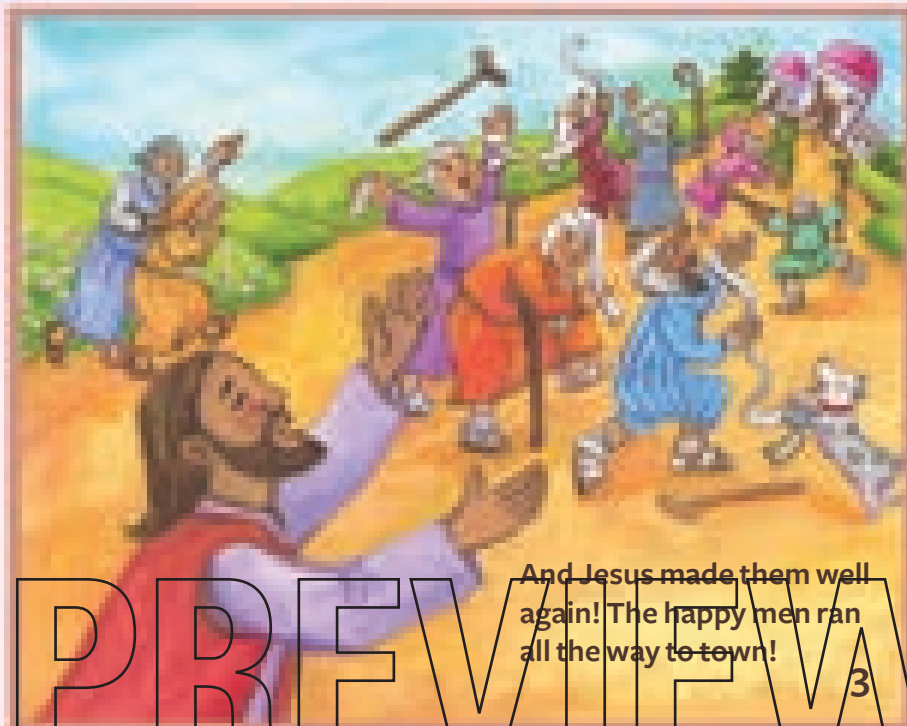
1



“Go to the priest and show
him your skin,” said Jesus.

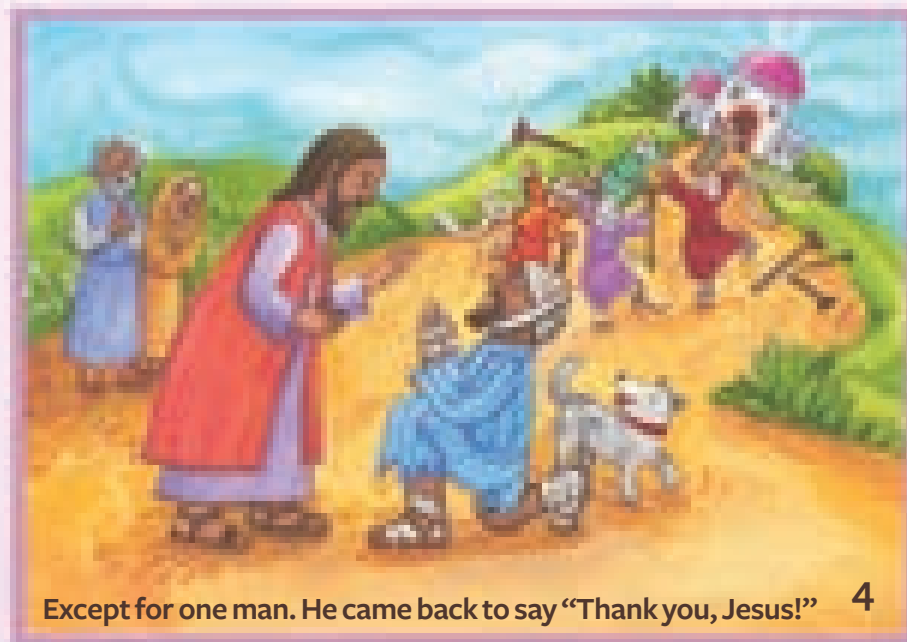
2

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And Jesus made them well again! The happy men ran all the way to town!

3



Except for one man. He came back to say “Thank you, Jesus!” 4

Imagine

Year 2, Unit 3, Session 4

show and share

Jesus Heals a Man Who Couldn't See

Based on Luke 18:35-43



PREVIEW

Day after day, a man who couldn't see sat by the road to Jericho and begged people for money. Most people ignored him. One day the man heard a noisy and excited crowd. "Jesus is on his way!" the man heard someone say. Now the man was excited too. He knew who Jesus was! "Jesus! Have mercy on me!" shouted the man. "Shh!" some people told the man. "Keep quiet!" But that didn't stop the man. He kept on shouting, "Jesus, have mercy on me! Help me!" Jesus stopped and looked. He told someone to bring the man to him. Then Jesus asked the man, "What do you want me to do for you?" The man said, "Lord, I want to see!"

To find out what happened next, turn to the last page.

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Look and see different things for which you can thank God. Draw a circle around each thing you see!

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Jesus said to the man, “Then you will see! Because you believe in me, you can see, my friend.” All at once the man could see! He followed Jesus, praising God. When all the people saw it, they praised God too!

Dear Family:

Today your child experienced an amazing example of Jesus’ compassion and concern for people. Read the story together. After your child completes the activity on the inside pages, count the things that were circled and then thank God together for each one.



Memory

Challenge:

1 John 4:19

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Imagine

Year 2, Unit 3, Session 5

show and share



Mary Honors Jesus

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PREVIEW



Dear Family:

Invite your child to use these story pictures to tell you the story of Mary and Jesus (John 12:1-11). Talk about how each person in your family can honor Jesus too!

Memory



Challenge:

1 John 4:19

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