

Rescuer - Family Lesson 2

Divine Attribute: God is Rescuer

Heart Response: Worship him

Memory Verse: John 3:16 NIRV “God loved the world so much that he gave his one and only Son. Anyone who believes in him will not die but will have eternal life.”

Points of Emphasis:

1. We need to be rescued from our sin.
2. God loves us.
3. God sent his Son, Jesus, to rescue us.
4. We should worship Jesus.

Family Worship

Choose your favorite songs from the [Spotify Playlist](#) found on the curriculum resource page. Have fun, sing loudly, and follow along with the motions!

Memory Verse

Supplies:

[Memory verse video](#)

Optional printed memory verse poster

Open your Bible to John 3:16. Show your child that this is where we find today’s verse in the Bible. Watch the memory verse video together. If you printed the memory verse poster, display it for your child to see. Practice the verse and motions with the video. Then, practice it as a family. Consider saying it in funny voices or as you stand, hop, or do other fun motions. Maybe even try making it a song!

Bible Lesson

***Note to - the lesson is written to be read like a story. Read the bold words aloud. The words in parenthesis give direction to pause, allow for response, or read Scripture.*

Supplies:

Bible

Lesson picture - baby in manger (found on [GCK resource page](#))

Last week, we learned that God sent Jesus, his Son, into the world, and this is what we celebrate at Christmas. Our lesson last week was about God sending the angel Gabriel to tell Mary that God had chosen her to be the mother of his Son, Jesus.

At this time, the Roman emperor, Augustus, says that he is going to count the people in the Roman Empire. People have to go back to the towns where their families are from. Remember, last week we learned that Mary was going to marry a man named Joseph. Joseph’s family is from Bethlehem. Can you say Bethlehem? (Say “Bethlehem” with your child.) **Great!**

Well, Mary and Joseph have to leave Nazareth, where they live, and travel to Bethlehem. By this time, it is very close to the time when Mary is going to give birth to Jesus. Back in those days, people did not have cars, buses, trains or planes to ride in. Most people traveled by walking.

This trip probably takes Joseph and Mary between four days and a week! It is not an easy trip. Mary most likely rides for part of the trip on a donkey and Joseph walks beside her. **Have you ever been on a long trip?** (Give time for responses.) **How did you travel—car, train, bus, or plane?** (Give time for responses.) **Did you get tired?** (Give time for responses.)

By the time Mary and Joseph reach Bethlehem, they are very tired. They look for a place to stay, but all the rooms are taken, so they stay in a stable with the animals. While they are staying in the stable, Jesus is born. Mary wraps baby Jesus in strips of cloth and lays him in a manger.

Does anyone know what a manger is? (Give time for responses.) It is the place where the animal's food is placed. Mary puts clean hay in the manger and gently places baby Jesus in it, on top of the hay. (Show lesson picture of the baby in a manger.) She worships God, thanking him for sending Jesus.

Last week, we talked about the reason Jesus was sent into the world. We have all done things that God has told us not to do. That is called "sin." God is holy and cannot be around sin. So our sin separates us from God. In order to be able to talk to God and be friends with God, we need someone to take away our sin. We are not able to do this for ourselves. Jesus, God's Son, came to the world to live a perfect life and die to take away our sin. That is the only way we can be friends with God again and go to Heaven.

At Christmas, we celebrate the birth of Jesus who came to the world to rescue us and save us from our sins. Jesus was God's gift to us because he loves us so much. We should worship Jesus.

Prayer

Father God, thank you for your gift of your Son, Jesus. We want to praise you for making a way for us to be friends with you. Help us to remember that this is what Christmas is about. Amen.

Coloring Sheet

Supplies

[Coloring sheet](#) (found on Kids Resource Page)

Crayons

Have your child color the picture. While your child is coloring, consider asking them the review questions below. These questions can also be saved for conversations over dinner or while driving.

Review Questions

1. Where did Mary and Joseph have to go to be counted? (Bethlehem.)
2. How did they get to Bethlehem? (They walked or rode a donkey.)
3. Why did Mary and Joseph stay in a stable? (There were no rooms available.)
4. What did Mary do after Jesus was born? (She wrapped him in cloths and put him in a manger.)

Optional Additional Activities

A Bed for Jesus

Supplies

Blocks

Using some blocks, encourage your child to build a manger or stable for Jesus. Talk about how there were no rooms available, so the Prince of Peace and Savior of the world was going to be born in a stable and laid in a manger. A manger is a trough, or box, that was used to feed animals. What do you think it smelled like?

