

A Baby Is Born

By RLD Editorial Team

for use as
STEP 1 

Lesson 3**Focus:**

We celebrate Jesus' birth.

Lesson 3**Bible Basis:**

Luke 2:1-20

Lesson 3**Memory Verse:**

"Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; he is the Messiah, the Lord." —Luke 2:11

Students will prepare their hearts to welcome and celebrate Jesus, the Savior.

Materials:

Internet access

Imagine the excitement and emotion when bringing a new baby home for the first time. You may have firsthand experience with a baby brother, sister, or cousin. If not, try to imagine what it would be like for a tiny new life to join your family as we watch this video together.

Share the following video [1:57]:

North Carolina family brings baby boy home for holidays after 17 months in NICU

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2J3u2b5WFU8>

After his 17-month stay in the NICU, Phillip got to go home—and people celebrated! Phillip's parents, nurses, and extended family all celebrated this big milestone. Whether a baby goes home shortly after being born or after a NICU stay, families often do something to celebrate their new family member coming home.

➤ **What are some ways that families often welcome babies home from the hospital?** (Answers will vary; family members gather at the house, balloons are put in the yard, etc.)

➤ **How do parents or guardians typically prepare the house for the new baby?** (Answers will vary; paint a room, set up a crib, buy diapers and other supplies, make sure the house is safe, etc.)

➤ **What do people do to celebrate the birth of a baby?** (Answers will vary; send announcements, share photos and videos, have parties, etc.)

You do not remember the day you came home from the hospital as a newborn, but someone was full of joy over your birth. Someone was overwhelmed with love and watched over you. There may have been tears of joy. There were probably a lot of smiles. There was probably some fear, too, with adults a bit nervous about taking care of such a precious and tiny being.

Our Lord and Savior Jesus was a baby once.

➤ **When you think of Jesus as a baby, what do you imagine He was like?** (Answers will vary.)

➤ **Imagine being Mary and Joseph, knowing your Son is going to be Jesus. Would you prepare for His coming any differently than for the birth of any other child? If so, how? If not, why?** (Answers will vary.)

➤ **Christmas is a little over a week away. How are you preparing to celebrate Jesus' birth?** (Answers will vary.)

The world was in need of a Savior. Generations waited hundreds of years for the promised Messiah. Finally, the day arrived; Jesus was born! Let's celebrate as we reflect on the story of Jesus' birth.

(Continue on to Steps 2 and 3 in your teacher's guide; your Step 4 appears below.)

Lesson 3 / December 15, 2024

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for use as
STEP 4 

Lesson 3**Focus:**

We celebrate Jesus' birth.

Lesson 3**Bible Basis:**

Luke 2:1-20

Lesson 3**Memory Verse:**

"Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; he is the Messiah, the Lord." —Luke 2:11

Materials:

- Internet access
- Paper folding guide (1 for teacher; [template here](#)). [Jeanne, the template for this can be found in the folder on Box](#)
- Red paper or cardstock (1 8 ½" x 11" sheet per student)
- Rulers
- Scissors
- Pencils
- Markers
- Hole punch
- Yarn, jute, or ribbon
- Clear or washi tape
- Writing paper (1 sheet per student)

Before class, familiarize yourself with the diagram on how to fold a heart pocket ([template here](#)). If your class is meeting online, send a list of supplies for families to prepare for their students ahead of time.

In today's Bible lesson, we read the story of Jesus' birth. This is truly a birth to celebrate.

➤ **Do you have any Christmas traditions, foods, or activities that you enjoy as part of your preparations for the Christmas celebration?** (Answers will vary.)

As we prepare for Christmas and the celebration through church services and gift giving, let's take time to prepare our hearts as well.

➤ **Do you have any ideas for how we can prepare our hearts?** (Answers will vary; prayer, singing, worship, reading the Christmas story again, etc.)

We are going to make heart Christmas ornaments to hang in your rooms to remind you to keep Jesus at the heart of Christmas and in your heart forever.

Distribute supplies (or invite students to have them ready at home). Guide your preteens through the following activity (**use the diagram provided here as a reference**).

- With an 8 ½" x 11" sheet of red paper or cardstock in the portrait position, fold the paper upward at about 4 ½" from the bottom of the page. You now have a folded paper where the back part is about 6 ½" and the top part (or flap) from the fold up is about 4 ½".

- Fold the paper in half sideways. The pocket formed by the first fold is now inside the folded page

- With the paper folded, draw half of a heart out from the fold, filling as much of the page as possible. The bottom point of the heart should go in at the bottom corner of the fold but be sure to leave enough of a folded base at the bottom so the fold up is still attached to the main page after cutting (see diagram).

- Cut out the half heart, being careful not to cut away all of the folded base.

- Open the heart.

- There is now a full heart with a pocket flap on top of it. Tape the edges of the flap to the edges of the heart.

- Punch a hole near the top on each rounded side of the heart.

- Thread yarn or ribbon through the holes and tie it at the top to make a loop to hang the heart.

- Write the memory verse on the pocket flap of the heart: "Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; he is the Messiah, the Lord" (Luke 2:11).

On a separate sheet of writing paper, write a note to Jesus letting Him know what He means to you.

As your students work, you may want to share this music video [2:17].

Come thou long expected Jesus

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3pabx6towKE>

Each day as we get closer to Christmas, add another little note into your heart pocket with that day's thoughts about how Jesus came to earth as a child and later saved us from our sins. Express what that means to you. This will help you prepare your heart. Perhaps on Christmas Eve or Christmas morning you can read all the notes with your family as a Christmas celebration prayer.

Turn today's memory verse into a closing prayer: **"Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; he is the Messiah, the Lord"** (Luke 2:11). **Glory to God in the highest. Amen.**

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