Name:_____

Daily Reading Questions

Note: The questions were written from the wording in the NIV 1984. If you are using a different Bible translation, they may have to be adapted.

Journal Focus – How do we know we can trust the stories about Jesus?

Reading 1: 2 Peter 1:12-21 The disciples were eyewitnesses.

Why did Peter want to refresh the memory of those he was writing to? (14-15) How did Peter know he was not following a cleverly invented story? (16-18) How was the word of the prophets made more certain? (16-18) What are ways people try to discredit the truth of Jesus' coming? Why do people want to discredit Jesus? How is the celebration of Christmas being used for purposes other than honoring God?

Reading 2: John 20:19-31 Jesus rose from the dead and appeared to his disciples.

Why were the disciples certain it was Jesus who appeared to them? Why did Thomas doubt what they said? What did Jesus say to Thomas? What does that mean for you? Why did John write down the things he said? Why do you think this account of Jesus is trustworthy?

Reading 3: Luke 1:1-4 Luke carefully investigated what he wrote down.

Who had handed down the stories of what happened? Why did Luke write down all the things he investigated? Why do you think what he wrote is trustworthy?

Reading 4: 2 Timothy 1:1-14 We know who is trustworthy.

How did Timothy's faith develop? What was Paul encouraging Timothy to do? What was happening to Paul because of sharing the Gospel? Why did Paul keep on sharing? Why do you think Paul is a trustworthy witness of the truth?

Reading 5: 1 John 1:1-7 John heard and saw the things he wrote about.

How did John know the things he is telling others? (1-3) Why is John writing these things down? (3-4) What does John say is the message? (5-6) What happens if we walk in the light? (7) Do you believe you can trust the things John wrote down? Why? What will believing the things he wrote do for you? Why is walking in the light critical for having fellowship with other believers?

Reading 6: John 14:5-11 Jesus tells us who he is.

What does Jesus say about himself? What does Jesus say is evidence about who he is?

The Christ of Christmas—1

IN THE BEGINNING

CREATION AND THE BEGINNING OF HUMAN HISTORY

THIS WEEK'S BIG QUESTION

What does God's messenger do?

MEMORY VERSE

Isaiah 52:7

How beautiful on the mountains are the feet of those who bring good news, who proclaim peace, who bring good tidings, who proclaim salvation, who say to Zion, "Your God reigns!"

Parent Notes

- **Daily Reading:** Depending on the age and ability of your child, or parent preference, he/she may do the work in this journal independently or complete it with the parent. After reading the day's Bible passage, the student should identify an important truth that relates to that reading and answer the question why he/she needs to know that truth. It would be beneficial if the parent and student also read through and answer the questions about the day's reading from the **Daily Reading Questions** at the back of the booklet. Personal ideas and additional questions from the parent can also be included.

- **Lesson Verse:** The lesson verse which answers the week's big question should be practiced daily. One way to do this is to black out words in the verse each day and say the verse inserting the correct word. By the end of the week the whole verse would be blacked out and recited by memory.

- **Concluding Lesson:** To develop deeper understanding and a comprehensive biblical worldview, the parent should talk through with the student the **Thinking It Through** questions at the back of the booklet and then have the student write out the answers.

- **Completion:** If the student brings this booklet back to the teacher on Sunday, with each day's work completed and the lesson verse memorized, the student will receive acknowledgement of a job well done.

- **Way to go, parents!** Your faithfulness in teaching your children the deed and statutes of the Lord isn't always easy, but it honors God and will have an eternal impact. Keep up the good work! Remember Galatians 6:9, *Let us not become weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up.*

Concluding Lesson—Thinking It Through

Discuss these questions with a parent then write out your answers below.

- What is an important truth you learned from the Bible readings this week?

- How should that truth be lived out in your life?

- What would be the result of your living out that truth?

- What is a lie or deception people believe in terms of that truth?

- Why does that lie or deception appeal to people?

- What would be the result of believing and following that lie or deception?

Digging Deeper: How do we know we can trust the stories about Jesus?

Reading 5: 1 John 1:1-7

What is an important truth from the passage?

Why do you need to know that truth?

Reading 6: John 14:5-11

What is an important truth from the passage?

Why do you need to know that truth?

#C1
What does God's messenger do?

God's messenger faithfiully shares God's truth.

Isaiah 52:7

How beautiful on the mountains are the feet of those who bring good news, who proclaim peace, who bring good tidings, who proclaim salvation, who say to Zion, "Your God reigns!"

 DIGGING DEEPER

This week in your daily Bible readings you will be digging deeper. You will be reading Scriptures that affirm the truth about Jesus and why we can trust the biblical accounts about the things he said and did. Consider why it is important to trust what the Bible says about Jesus.

Digging Deeper: How do we know we can trust the stories about Jesus?

Reading 1: 2 Peter 1:12-21

What is an important truth from the passage?

Why do you need to know that truth?

Reading 2: John 20:19-31

What is an important truth from the passage?

Why do you need to know that truth?

Reading 3: Luke 1:1-4

What is an important truth from the passage?

Why do you need to know that truth?

Reading 4: 2 Timothy 1:1-14

What is an important truth from the passage?

Why do you need to know that truth?