

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 – What happened before Jesus was born?

Reading 1: Luke 1:5-25 – The Promise to Zechariah

Why was Zechariah serving in the temple? What happened to Zechariah when the angel appeared to him? What did the angel say to Zechariah? Why did Zechariah have trouble believing the angel? What happened to him because of his doubt? What happened to Elizabeth? What can you learn from what happened to Zechariah? How does this reading relate to Malachi 4:5?

Reading 2: Luke 1:26-38 – The Angel Appears to Mary

How did Gabriel greet Mary? How did Mary respond? What did Gabriel say would happen to Mary? (What did he say this Son would be like? What was Mary's response to this? How did Gabriel say Mary would conceive? What did Mary say then? What can you learn from Mary? How does this passage relate to Isaiah 7:14?

Reading 3: Luke 1:39-56 – Elizabeth and Mary Meet

What happened when Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting? What did Elizabeth say to Mary? What does that show about Elizabeth? What did Mary say about God? What does this show she understood? What does it mean to be filled with the Spirit? What showed that Elizabeth and Mary were filled with the Holy Spirit?

Reading 4: Luke 1:57-80 – The Birth of John

What happened when Elizabeth said the baby was to be named John? What did Zechariah do when they asked him? What happened after he wrote that? What did Zechariah say about John? What did he say about the coming Messiah? The name John (derived from the Hebrew) means "God is gracious." What does gracious mean? How does this name apply to John the Baptist and his ministry?

Reading 5: Matthew 1:18-25 – The Response of Joseph

What did Joseph plan to do when he found out Mary was pregnant? What did the angel say to him? What was Joseph's response? What shows you that Joseph was a righteous man? Why would obeying the angel have been difficult for him?

Reading 6: Luke 2:1-7 – The Fulfillment of Prophecy

Why did Mary and Joseph go to Bethlehem? Why did Mary have to put the baby in a manger for a bed? How does the reading relate to Micah 5:2? What does the reading reveal about the sovereignty of God? Why do you think God had his Son born in a stable? What kind of Savior or King would most people have been looking for? Why?



UPPER ELEMENTARY-ADULT

LEVEL 4

HOME JOURNAL

The Christ of Christmas—2



CREATION AND THE BEGINNING OF HUMAN HISTORY

THIS WEEK'S BIG QUESTION

Who is Jesus?

MEMORY VERSE

John 1:14

The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us. We have seen his glory, the glory of the One and Only, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth.

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: What happened before Jesus was born?

Reading 5: Matthew 1:18-25

What is an important truth from the passage?

Why do you need to know that truth?

Reading 6: Luke 2:1-7

What is an important truth from the passage?

Why do you need to know that truth?

#C2

Who is Jesus?

Jesus is the Living Word who came to earth to reveal God's glory.

John 1:14

The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us. We have seen his glory, the glory of the One and Only, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth.



DIGGING DEEPER

This week in your daily Bible readings you will be digging deeper and reading about the events before the birth of Jesus. At the back of the journal are questions to help you think more deeply about the passages you read. The readings will cover events that you probably have read before but try to gain new and greater understanding from what you read. The Word of God is alive and speaks to us continually.

Digging Deeper: What happened before Jesus was born?

Reading 1: Luke 1:5-25

What is an important truth from the passage?

Why do you need to know that truth?

Reading 2: Luke 1:26-38

What is an important truth from the passage?

Why do you need to know that truth?

Digging Deeper: What happened before Jesus was born?

Reading 3: Luke 1:39-56

What is an important truth from the passage?

Why do you need to know that truth?

Reading 4: Luke 1:57-80

What is an important truth from the passage?

Why do you need to know that truth?