

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 with the birth of Jesus?

Reading 1: Phil. 2:1-11 – The Manger: Cradling God’s humble servant

How did Paul say the Philippians could make his joy complete? (2-3) What should our attitude be the same as? (5) What was Christ’s attitude? (6-7) What was he obedient to do? (8) What was the result? (9-10) How can we have the same attitude as Christ? What will our lives be like if we have that attitude? What does it mean to be humble? Why does God want us to be humble? How did Jesus’ birth demonstrate humility? How did Jesus’ life demonstrate humility?

Reading 2: Luke 2:8-14 – The Angels: Announcing the birth

What happened to the shepherds when they saw the angel? (9) What did the angel say to them? (10-12) What happened after the angel spoke? (13-14) Why are people so terrified at the presence of an angel? Is God always present with us? Are we always in awe of his presence? Should we be? How? Is God’s peace given to all men? Explain.

Reading 3: Luke 2:15-20 – The Shepherds: Believing the message

What did the shepherds do after they heard the message? (16) What did they do after they had seen Jesus? (17,20) What showed that the shepherds believed what the angel had told them? What should always follow belief? Why? After they saw Jesus what showed that they believed the truth about Jesus? What can we learn from the shepherds? How does the reading relate to John 14:23?

Reading 4: Luke 2:21-40 – Simeon: Seeing with his eyes the precious Savior

Why was Simeon at the temple at the same time as Mary and Joseph? (25-27) What was his praise to God? (29-32) What did he say to Mary about the baby? (34-35) How did Anna respond to Jesus? (38) What do you think it was like for Simeon to see Jesus? Why did so few other people see Jesus with the same eyes as Simeon? What can we learn from Simeon? How does the reading relate to Ephesians 1:17-19a?

Reading 5: Heb. 9:19-22; 1 Pet. 1:17-21 – The Lamb of God: Taking away the sins of the world

What does the law require? (Hebrews 9:22) Why? How were we redeemed from our empty way of life? (18-21) Why are we able to have faith and hope in God? (1 Peter 1:21) Why did Jesus have to be sacrificed for our sin? What does blood do for our physical bodies? How is that similar to what Christ’s blood does for us spiritually?

Reading 6: John 10:11-18 – The Lost Sheep: Needing a Shepherd

How does Jesus describe himself? (11) What will the good shepherd do for his sheep? (11) How are the sheep to respond to the shepherd? (16) Besides laying down his life for us how has Jesus shown he is the good shepherd? How do we listen to his voice? What will be the result?



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UPPER ELEMENTARY-ADULT

LEVEL 4

HOME JOURNAL

The Christ of Christmas—3



THIS WEEK’S BIG QUESTION

How is Jesus the Lamb of God?

MEMORY VERSE

1 Peter 1:18-19

For you know that it was not with perishable things such as silver or gold that you were redeemed from the empty way of life handed down to you from your forefathers, but with the precious blood of Christ, a lamb without blemish or defect.

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 with the birth of Jesus?

Reading 5: Heb. 9:19-22; 1 Pet. 1:17-21

What is an important truth from the passage?

Why do you need to know that truth?

Reading 6: John 10:11-18

What is an important truth from the passage?

Why do you need to know that truth?

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How is Jesus the Lamb of God?

Jesus lived a perfect life and shed his blood to take away our sin.

1 Peter 1:18-19

For you know that it was not with perishable things such as silver or gold that you were redeemed from the empty way of life handed down to you from your forefathers, but with the precious blood of Christ, a lamb without blemish or defect.



DIGGING DEEPER

This week in your daily Bible readings you will be digging deeper and reading about the events at the time of the birth of Jesus and other related passages. 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 in new and deeper ways as we continue to study it.

Digging Deeper: What happened with the birth of Jesus?

Reading 1: Phil. 2:1-11

What is an important truth from the passage?

Why do you need to know that truth?

Reading 2: Luke 2:8-14

What is an important truth from the passage?

Why do you need to know that truth?

Digging Deeper: What happened with the birth of Jesus?

Reading 3: Luke 2:15-20

What is an important truth from the passage?

Why do you need to know that truth?

Reading 4: Luke 2:21-40

What is an important truth from the passage?

Why do you need to know that truth?