

December 25, 2021 Christmas Day

1

Gospel

Gospel – Adapted from John 1:1-18

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things were made through him, and without him nothing came to exist. What came to exist through him was life, and this life was the light of the human race. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not defeated it.

A man named John was sent from God. He came to tell people about the light, so that people would believe. He was not the light, but came to tell people about the light. The true light, which shines on everyone, was coming into the world. He was in the world, and the world was made through him, but the world did not recognize him. He came to what belongs to him, but his own people did not accept him.

But he gave the power to become children of God to those who did accept him, to those who believe in his name. Those were not born as God's children by nature, or by a person's decision, but by God.

And the Word became Man, and lived among us. We saw his glory, the glory of the Father's only Son. John spoke about him, saying, "This is the one I told you about when I said, 'Someone is coming who is above me because he existed before me." From his perfection we have all received greater grace in place of the grace we had before. For while we received the law through Moses, we received grace and truth through Jesus Christ. No one has ever seen God. The only Son, who is God, who is at the Father's side, has shown him to us.



Reflection

Merry Christmas! What a joyful day it is! Why is it so joyful? Because we will get some nice presents? Because we will have a wonderful Christmas dinner? Because we will be with our families? No; those things are nice, but it is the reason that we do those things that makes today so joyful. Jesus Christ is born! Christmas is a celebration of the fact that God loves us so much, He became one of us as a little Baby.

Today's Gospel tells us that Jesus is the Word of God; that He is God from all eternity. But the Word became human. The Light of the world was coming into the world, and the darkness will not overcome it. That should give us joy. Sometimes the world can seem like a dark place. But Jesus is the light of the world! And the darkness will not overcome Him.

Why was He born? Today's Gospel tells us that "to those who did accept him, he gave power to become children of God." He was born so that we could be born! We can be born as children of God. That is a reason for joy. Because of that wonderful Baby, whose birthday we celebrate today, you are not just God's creation; you are His child. Children of God. That is what we are. Yes, there are many reasons for us to be joyful today!

3

Discussion Questions

What do you think it means, that Jesus will always overcome the darkness?

How do you feel to know that you are a child of God?



4 Vocabulary

- Christmas The celebration of the birth of Jesus.
- **Eternity** Forever, with no beginning and no end. Jesus has been God from all eternity.
- Incarnation God becoming Man. This happened when Mary first became pregnant with Jesus.
- **Joy** Joy is a lasting happiness.

5 Fill in the Blank

- 1) Jesus was born in Bethlehem on the first ______.
- 2) Jesus came so we could be children of God that should give us great ______.
- 3) God humbled Himself to become human at the ______.
- 4) Jesus wants us to be with Him in Heaven for all ______.



6 Quiz

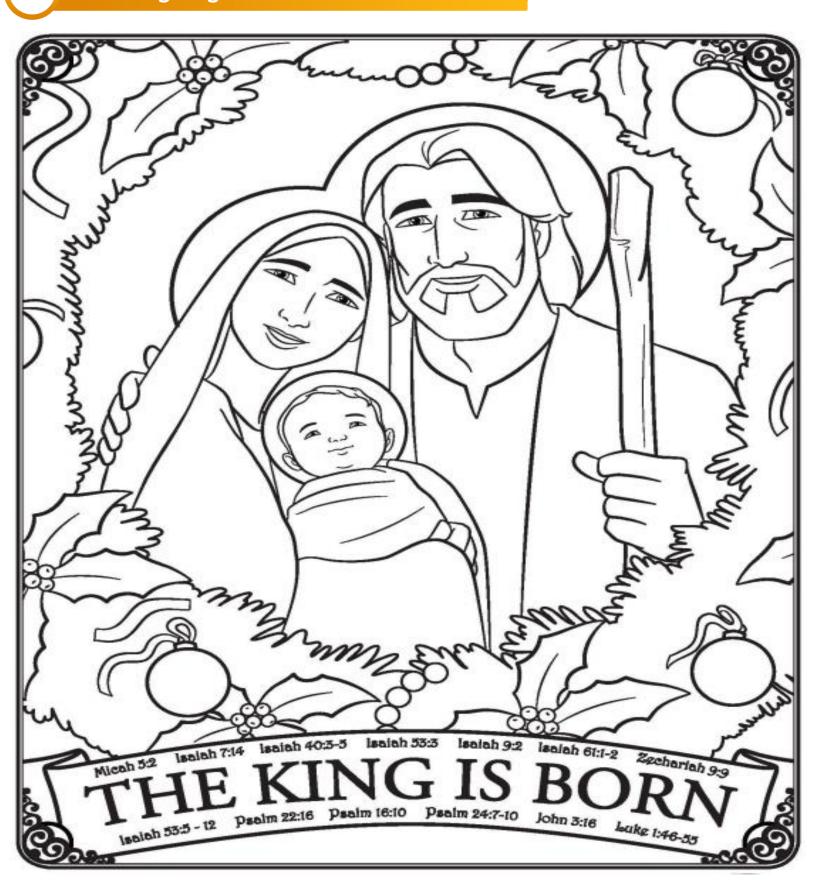
- 1) "In the beginning, the Word was with God, and the Word was _____."
 - A) Happy
 - B) Holy
 - C) Powerful
 - D) God
- 2) Who was sent from God to tell people about the light that was coming into the world?
 - A) Peter
 - B) Mary
 - C) John
 - D) Zechariah
- 3) What do those who accept Jesus receive the power to become?
 - A) Gods
 - B) Children of God
 - C) Superheroes
 - D) Famous

<u>Christmas Day</u>

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CHRISTMAS
ETERNITY
INCARNATION
JOY
LIGHT
WORLD







9

Answers

Fill in the Blank

- 1) Christmas
- 2) Joy
- 3) Incarnation
- 4) Eternity

Quiz:

- 1) D God
- 2) C John
- 3) B Children of God

