

dwell[®]



Dear Family,

Like us, kids are busy. Their lives are filled with split-second images, fast food dinners, quick conversations, and extracurricular competitions. This year we're going to give kids less noise and more time to experience God as we dwell in God's Word together each week. Your child's group is called "Wonder"—every time we meet we'll be entering one of God's stories, and then living into and out of it together. For the next six weeks we'll be learning stories about the events leading up to and including Jesus' birth, as well as his early years on earth.

Each week your child will bring home a Show and Share paper designed to help kids show and share what they've learned at church with you at home. Every story we learn has a story symbol that will help your child recall the story and see it as one part of God's big story. You'll find that story symbol on the Show and Share papers and also inside the God's Big Story cards you can use each day at home.

In addition to singing songs of praise, we're going to be learning verses from Scripture by singing them! (You may purchase your own copy of DwellSongs at www.faithaliveresources.org. Individual songs can also be downloaded at www.dwellcurriculum.org/music—just ask me for the titles!)

We're excited to begin a new year of children's ministry and can't wait to begin this faith journey with you and your child! Please contact us if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

P.S. Check out www.nurturekidsfaith.org for practical Christian parenting tips, recommended resources, and more! If you want to learn more about Dwell, visit www.dwellcurriculum.org.

A Royal Announcement . . .



And there were shepherds living out in the fields nearby, keeping watch over their flocks at night. An angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. But the angel said to them, “Do not be afraid. I bring you good news that will cause great joy for all the people. Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; he is the Messiah, the Lord. This will be a sign to you: You will find a baby wrapped in cloths and lying in a manger.” Suddenly a great company of the heavenly host appeared with the angel, praising God and saying, “Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace to those on whom his favor rests.”

—Luke 2:8-14, NIV



A Royal Announcement . . .

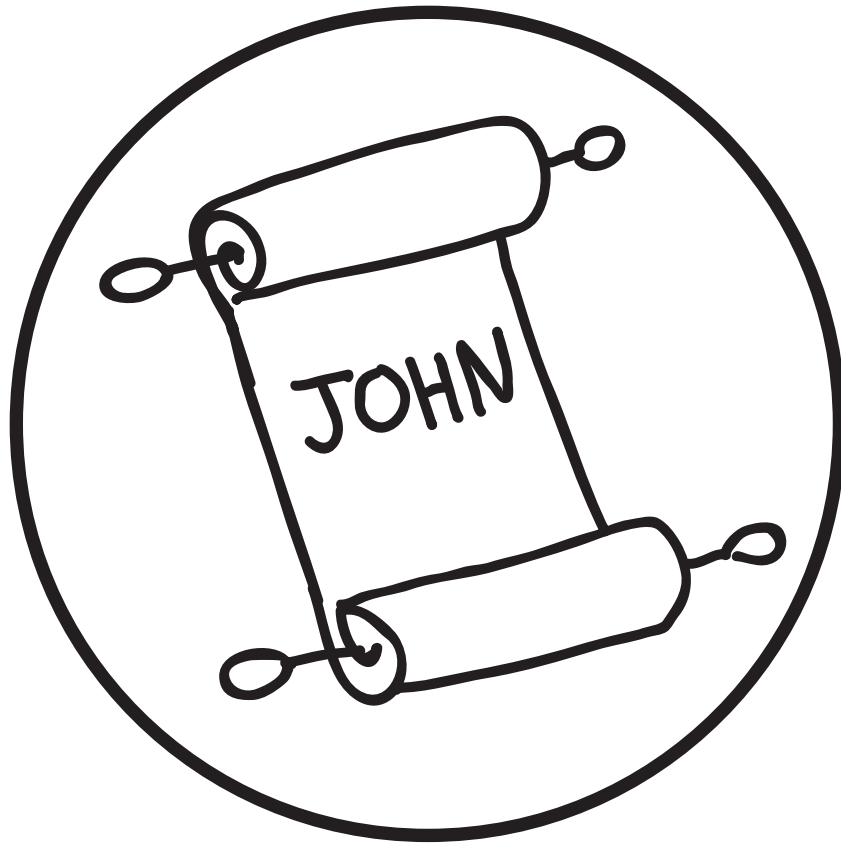


In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. But the angel said to them, “Do not be afraid; for see—I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord.

This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger.” And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying, “Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace among those whom he favors!”

—Luke 2:8-14, NRSV

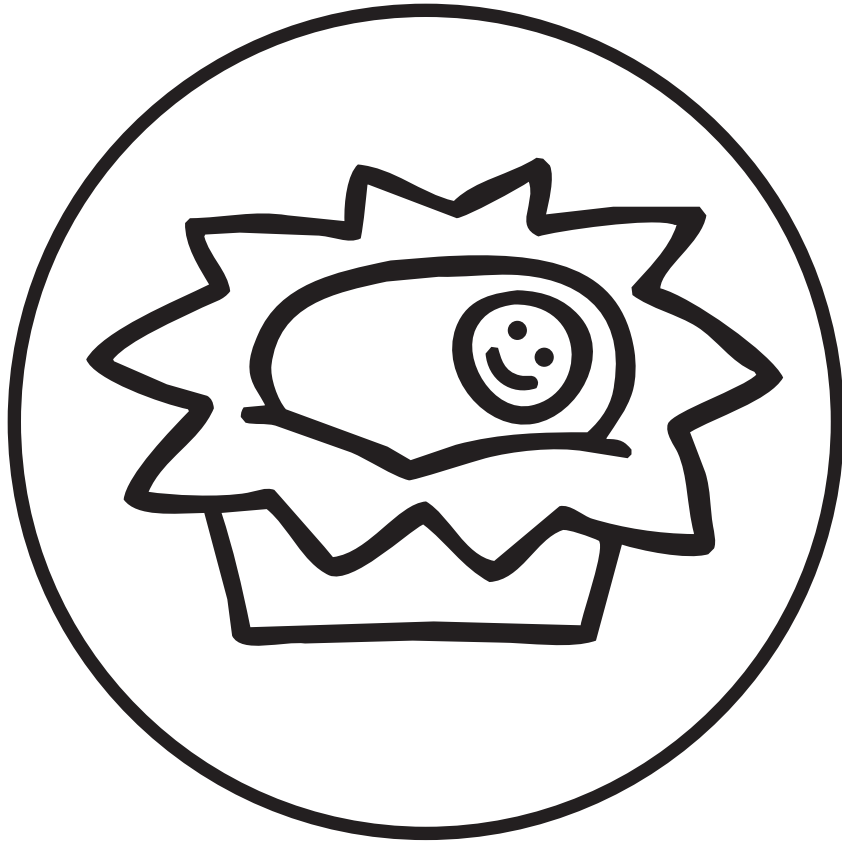




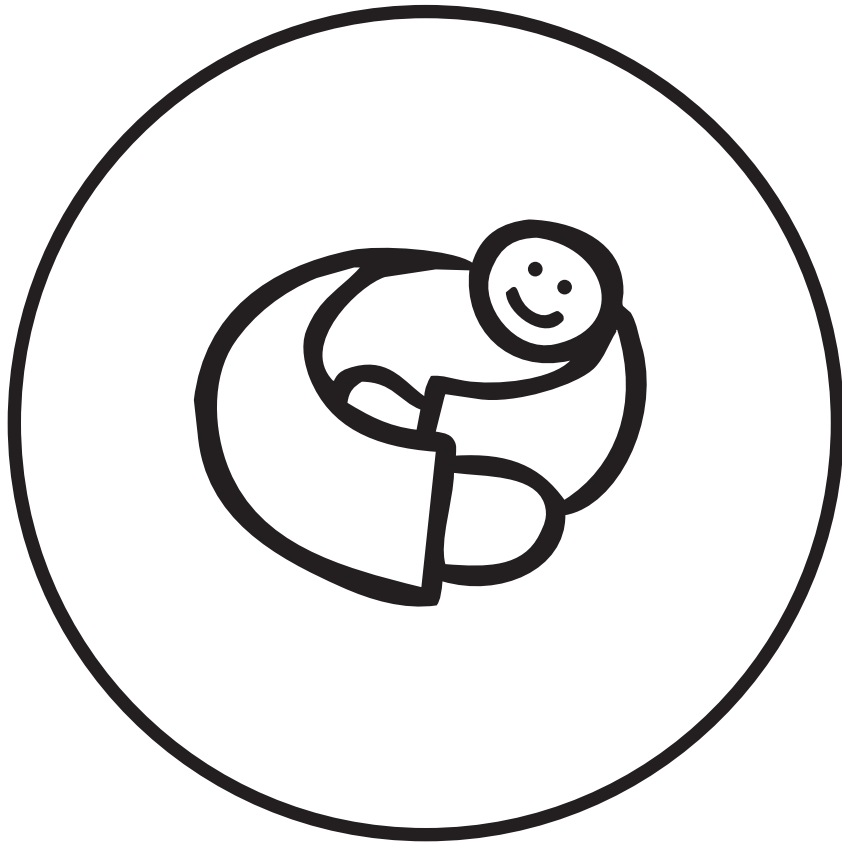
Wonder
Year 1, Unit 1, Session 1



Wonder
Year 1, Unit 1, Session 2



Wonder
Year 1, Unit 1, Session 3



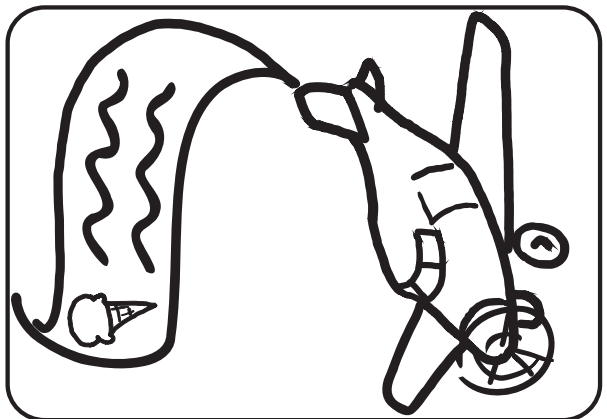
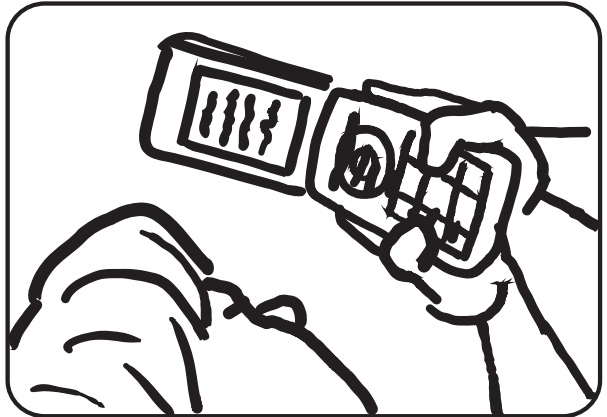
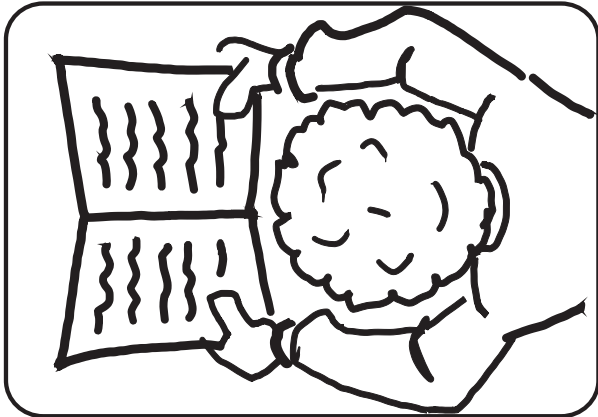
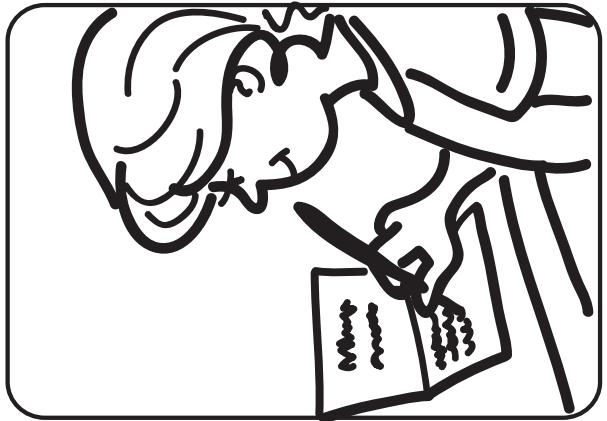
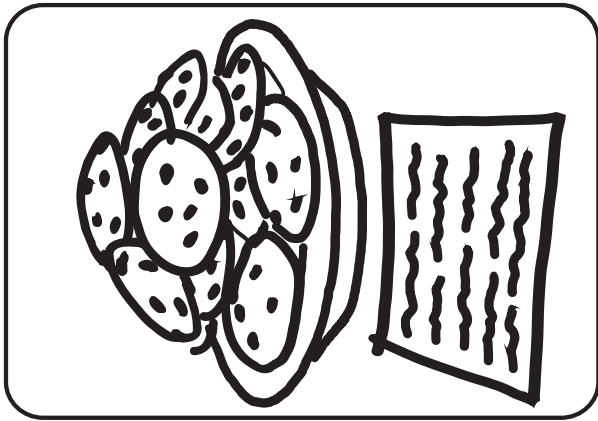
Wonder
Year 1, Unit 1, Session 4



Wonder
Year 1, Unit 1, Session 5



Wonder
Year 1, Unit 1, Session 6



Find the
Christmas story
in the Bible

Luke 2:8-14

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Christmas story
in the Bible

Luke 2:8-14

Find the
Christmas story
in the Bible

Luke 2:8-14

JESUS
The
Lord
Saves

JESUS
The
Lord
Saves

JESUS
The
Lord
Saves



Celebration Invitation

1. Sing a favorite Christmas song about Jesus.

2. Pray this prayer together.

Leader: Dear God, we come together to celebrate your greatest gift to us, Jesus.

All: Jesus is the best gift ever!

Leader: We thank you for loving us so much that you sent Jesus to be our Savior.

All: Jesus is the best gift ever!

Leader: Your love is amazing!

All: Jesus is the best gift ever!

Leader: We thank you today and will thank you for the rest of our lives.

All: Jesus is the best gift ever!

Leader: Amen

All: Amen and Amen!

3. Read or say the words of Luke 2:8-14 together.

4. Stand and clap to celebrate Jesus.

Stand and clap your hands. Then hold your hands up, palms forward, and clap hands with the others.

Take this Celebration Invitation home and enjoy celebrating with family and friends!

Praise Maze

Welcome your loving Savior, Jesus.
Draw a heart and put your initials in the center.

Praise Maze

Raise your hands; wave them in praise to God.
Draw your hand.
Write your first name under it.

Praise Maze

Sit down and pray silently. Thank God for sending Jesus.
Place your initials on the paper when you are finished.

Praise Maze

Honor Jesus by writing a word that
describes him—or one that tells who he is.

Praise Maze

We honor and praise Jesus when we tell someone
about Jesus. Write the name of someone
you will share today's story with.

Praise Maze

This is a message board. Write one sentence
that tells how you feel about Jesus.

Memory Challenge: Luke 2:8-14, NIV

And there were shepherds living out in the fields nearby,

keeping watch over their flocks at night.

An angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory

of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified.

But the angel said to them, “Do not be afraid.

I bring you good news that will bring great joy for all the people.

Today in the town of David a Savior has been
born to you; he is the Messiah, the Lord.

This will be a sign to you: You will find a baby
wrapped in cloths and lying in a manger.”

Suddenly a great company of the heavenly host
appeared with the angel, praising God and saying,

“Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth
peace to those on whom his favor rests.”

Memory Challenge: Luke 2: 8-14, NRSV

In that region there were shepherds living in the fields,

keeping watch over their flock by night. Then an angel of the

Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone

around them, and they were terrified.

But the angel said to them,

“Do not be afraid; for see—I am bringing you good news of

great joy for all the people: to you is born this day in the city

of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord.

This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger.”

And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying,

“Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace among those whom he favors!”

1

Songs of Worship

Praise Jesus by singing a couple of songs you know that praise Jesus—maybe even a familiar Christmas song everyone knows.

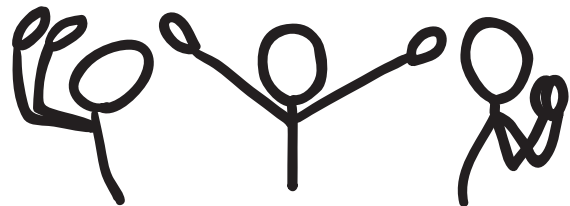


2

Acts of Worship

Show with your body how different people worshiped and praised Jesus.

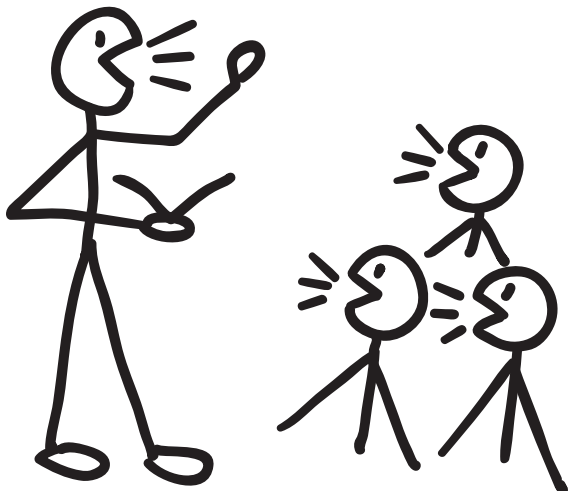
- Show how Mary praised God for the promise of Jesus.
- Show how the shepherds might have looked as they praised God for sending Jesus.
- Show how Anna and Simeon praised God for sending Jesus.
- Show the amazement of the wise old teachers at the temple when they listened to Jesus.
- Pretend you are standing at the manger in Bethlehem, looking at baby Jesus. Show with your body how you would praise him.



3

Echo Chorus of Worship

Your leader will read Luke 2:8-14, one phrase at a time. When the leader stops, echo the words the leader said.



4

Prayers of Praise

Sit on the floor in pairs. Sit back to back, leaning against your prayer partner. Pray silently; worship Jesus as you pray. One way to do that is to tell Jesus how much you love him, how you want to serve him, and how thankful you are that he is here.



Good News Gazette

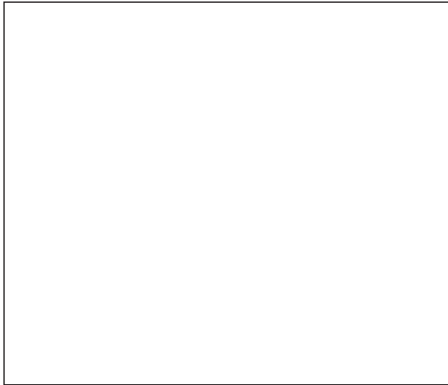
Has the Messiah Arrived?

Candy's Camel Hair Coats

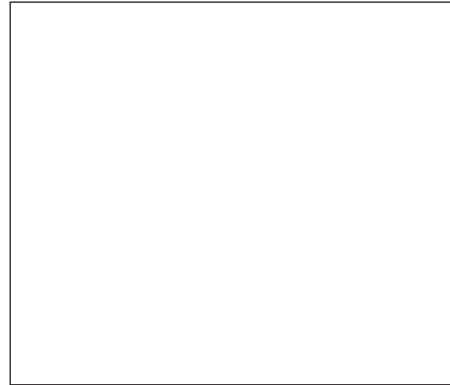
3954 Wilderness Way

SPECIAL!! Camel Hair Coats

Guaranteed to keep you warm on chilly wilderness nights.
When it's hot, roll it up and you have a cozy pillow—you'll sleep like a baby!
Stop in while our supply lasts! Free locusts with purchase.



\$39.99 for the short style



\$59.99 for the longer style

(Offer good while supplies last. Limit five coats per person. All are welcome. Camels enter at their own risk.)

Ken's Kayaks

321 River Road

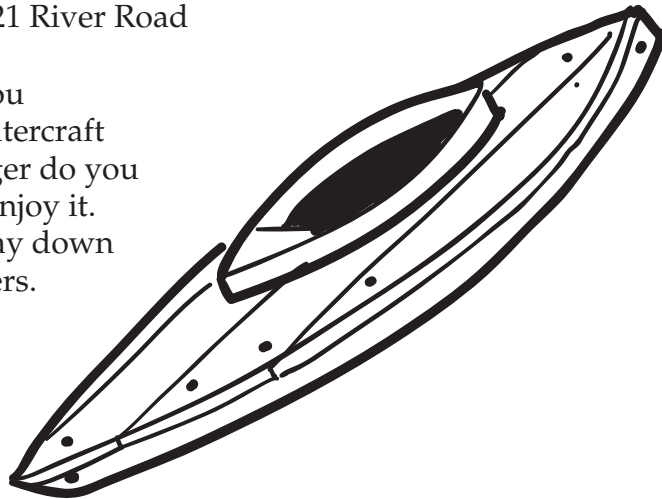
NEW! Have you seen them? Have you tried them? Just arrived: Personal watercraft to enjoy on the Jordan River. No longer do you have to swim the river to be able to enjoy it. With kayaks you can paddle your way down the river and enjoy its natural wonders.

Prices are as follows:

Large "Beauty" _____

Medium "Marvel" _____

Small "Mini" _____



Be one of the first in your town to have one.
Stop in soon. They're selling faster than locusts can jump!

(Offer good until midnight. Ken's Kayaks will not be held responsible for any sinkers. Float at your own risk.)

Everyone is talking about it! Crowds of people were at the river yesterday listening to John the Baptist preach. His message seems to be: Repent! Prepare the way for the Lord! He told tax collectors to stop collecting more money than people owe. He told soldiers to stop bullying people and trying to get money from them. He told the whole crowd to share their clothes and food with the poor.

Suddenly a man asked to be baptized. John seemed uncomfortable doing it. But the man said that that is what God wanted. So John baptized him.

Why We Believe



A group of people who were there told us what happened when that man was baptized. They say there were two signs that this man is Jesus, the Messiah. Our artists have created pictures to tell us exactly what they saw and heard.





dwell®

www.DwellCurriculum.org

Year 1

Unit 1 Wonder ... About God's Amazing Plan

Unit 2 Wonder ... About God's Daring Mission

Unit 3 Wonder ... About Jesus' Surprising Power

Unit 4 Wonder ... About Jesus' Loving Care

Unit 5 Wonder ... About Jesus' Incredible Love

Unit 6 Wonder ... About the Holy Spirit's Life-Changing Power

Year 2

Unit 1 Wonder ... About God's Never-Ending Love for Creation

Unit 2 Wonder ... About God's Growing Family

Unit 3 Wonder ... About God's Extraordinary Plan for Ordinary People

Unit 4 Wonder ... About God's Wonderful Plan

Unit 5 Wonder ... About God's Surprising Protection

Unit 6 Wonder ... About God's Growing Kingdom



www.FaithAliveResources.org

RELIGION / Christian Ministry / Children

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