



FAMILY
LifeGroup



CHALLENGE

Last session we asked you to try and remember a Bible verse. See who can remember it.

**“Praise be to the Lord, the God of Israel, because he has come to his people and redeemed them.”
Luke 1:68**



EXPLORATION

This week we continue our series, Christmas is more than a..... This week is titled, Christmas is more than a Family.

Click [here](#) to find out what it is all about!



VERSE

Luke 1:26-56

In the sixth month of Elizabeth’s pregnancy, God sent the angel Gabriel to Nazareth, a town in Galilee, to a virgin pledged to be married to a man named Joseph, a descendant of David. The virgin’s name was Mary. The angel went to her and said, “Greetings, you who are highly favoured! The Lord is with you.”

Mary was greatly troubled at his words and wondered what kind of greeting this might be. But the angel said to her, “Do not be afraid, Mary; you have found favour with God. You will conceive and give birth to a son, and you are to call him Jesus. He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High. The Lord God will give him the throne of his father David, and he will reign over Jacob’s descendants forever; his kingdom will never end. “How will this be,” Mary asked the angel, “since I am a virgin?” The angel answered, “The Holy Spirit will come on you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you. So the holy one to be born will be called the Son of God. Even Elizabeth your relative is going to have a child in her old age, and she who was said to be unable to conceive is in her sixth month. For no word from God will ever fail.” “I am the Lord’s servant,” Mary answered. “May your word to me be fulfilled.” Then the angel left her. At that time Mary got ready and hurried to a town in the hill country of Judea, where she entered Zechariah’s home and greeted Elizabeth. When Elizabeth heard Mary’s greeting, the baby leaped in her womb, and Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit. In a loud voice she exclaimed: “Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the child you will bear! But why am I so favoured, that the mother of my Lord should come to me? As soon as the sound of your greeting reached my ears, the baby in my womb leaped for joy. Blessed is she who has believed that the Lord would fulfill his promises to her!”

And Mary said:

“My soul glorifies the Lord
and my spirit rejoices in God my Saviour,
for he has been mindful
of the humble state of his servant.
From now on all generations will call me blessed,
for the Mighty One has done great things for me—
holy is his name.
His mercy extends to those who fear him,
from generation to generation.
He has performed mighty deeds with his arm;
he has scattered those who are proud in their inmost thoughts.
He has brought down rulers from their thrones
but has lifted up the humble.
He has filled the hungry with good things
but has sent the rich away empty.
He has helped his servant Israel,
remembering to be merciful
to Abraham and his descendants forever,
just as he promised our ancestors.”
Mary stayed with Elizabeth for about three months and then returned home.



MAIN THOUGHT

Jesus was born into an ordinary family. His parents weren't famous or particularly special, but God chose them! We are the same, no matter who we are God chooses us to be a part of His family. He also wants us to share the good news of His son Jesus with others, so they can join His family too!



DISCUSSION

These are to guide the general conversation.

1. What is 1 thing you love about your family?
2. What is 1 thing you wish your family did together?
3. Share your favourite family Christmas memory
4. How does it feel to be a part of God's family?



ACTIVITIES

CRAFT ACTIVITY

I AM A PART OF GOD'S FAMILY

Jesus was born into an ordinary family, but He lived and did extraordinary things! We are a part of God's big family because of what Jesus did for us when he died for our sins!



You Will Need:

- Nativity colouring in (at the end of this guide)
- Textas, pencils or crayons.

Colour in the sheet and put it somewhere you will always see it so you always remember that you are a part of God's special family, because of what Jesus has done for you.

ACTIVE ACTIVITY

FAMILY ACTS OF SERVICE

God gave us our families to help us and love us. He also calls us to love others, and we can do that as a family, so that others will know God's love



You Will Need:

- Your family
- Your imagination

Think of a way your family can bless someone else. Maybe you can invite another family over for a meal. Maybe you could offer to tidy up your neighbour's garden as a family, maybe you could make a meal for someone else as a family. The possibilities are endless, just do something together as a family, to show God's love to someone else.



PRAYER

God, we thank you that you sent Jesus to live here on earth. We thank you that He was a part of a family, just like ours. We thank you that through His sacrifice on the cross we can be a part of your family. We ask that you would help us to show your love to those around us, so they can be a part of your family too!! Amen.



BLESSING

Name, may the joy of Christ fill your Christmas with so much more. Amen.



Try and remember this verse this week. Perhaps you and your family might like to make up some actions to help, or even a song? It's a big one this week!!

**Mighty One has done great things for me, holy is his name.
*Luke 1:49***

COMMUNITY CONNECTION

We would love to see how you and your family are growing faith in your home.

Why not set up a mini 'Table' for the kids like we have been using at LifeWay? It can be as simple as paper and pencils, scissors and glue and Lego or Play dough. They can then make something while you watch the Live Stream as a family.

If you are happy to share photos or videos of what you have been doing please send them to Elise von Stanke elise.vonstanke@lifeway.net.au and we will share these with our community through Facebook and Instagram @lifewaylutheranchurch.

We would also love you to join us for KidsWay Live, our Zoom Life Group for our Primary School aged children. Email Elise for more information.

THE LAST PAGE OF THE GUIDE IS THE ACTIVITY FOR KIDSWAY LIVE ON NOVEMBER 15. WE WOULD LOVE YOU TO JOIN US!!!!



I am a part of God's