



FAMILY
LifeGroup



CHALLENGE

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

He threw himself at Jesus' feet and thanked him
Luke 17:16



EXPLORATION

This week we start our new series, Christmas is more than a..... This week is titled, Christmas is more than a story.

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



VERSE

Mark 1:1-8

The beginning of the good news about Jesus the Messiah, the Son of God, as it is written in Isaiah the prophet:

"I will send my messenger ahead of you,
who will prepare your way"—

"a voice of one calling in the wilderness,
'Prepare the way for the Lord,
make straight paths for him.'"

And so John the Baptist appeared in the wilderness, preaching a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. The whole Judean countryside and all the people of Jerusalem went out to him. Confessing their sins, they were baptized by him in the Jordan River. John wore clothing made of camel's hair, with a leather belt around his waist, and he ate locusts and wild honey. And this was his message: "After me comes the one more powerful than I, the straps of whose sandals I am not worthy to stoop down and untie. I baptize you with water, but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit."



MAIN THOUGHT

We hear the Christmas story each year, and sometimes we can take it for granted. But, Christmas is so much more than a story, it is a miracle of God coming to earth, for us!!



DISCUSSION

These are to guide the general conversation.

1. What's your favourite story?
2. If you could be 1 character from a book, which would you be?
3. When was your favourite Christmas? Why?
4. What is your favourite part of the Christmas story?



ACTIVITIES

CRAFT ACTIVITY

MORE THAN A STORY

The birth of Jesus is a wonderful story, but it is more than that!! It is God coming to earth to fulfil His plan to fix our friendship with Him!

You Will Need:

- Black paper
- Nativity template (at the end of the guide)
- Scissors/craft knife
- Contact
- Tissue paper or cellophane.



Using the template cut out the nativity scene. Stick it onto a piece of contact, so the sticky parts show through. Stick on tissue paper, or cellophane on the sticky parts. Attach another piece of contact over the top. Stick the label on the roof of the stable. Stick your scene on a window, so the sun will shine through!

ACTIVE ACTIVITY

CHRISTMAS IS LOVE

Often we focus on presents and meals at Christmas, but it is so much more than that! Christmas is about love. The love of God for us, sending His son to be here on earth with us. Let's share this love with those around us!



You Will Need:

- Imagination

As a family think of a way you can share the love of Christmas with those around you. Maybe you would like to make something to give to your neighbours? You could include a message about the meaning of Christmas. Maybe you could do something special for others to show the love of Christmas. The possibilities are endless, just remember that you are trying to show that Christmas is more than a story!!



PRAYER

Jesus, we thank you that you came to earth at Christmas. Help us to remember that Christmas is more than a great story, it is the love of you coming to earth to heal our friendship with God. Amen.



BLESSING

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



CHALLENGE

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!!

**The beginning of the good news about Jesus the Messiah, the Son of God
Mark 1:1**

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!!!!



CHRISTMAS IS MORE

THAN A STORY!