



## Family Time

### Main Idea:

### The Birth of Jesus



#### Key Verse: Luke 2:10-11

<sup>10</sup> But the angel said to them, "Don't be afraid, for look, I proclaim to you good news of great joy that will be for all the people: <sup>11</sup> Today in the city of David a Savior was born for you, who is the Messiah, the Lord."



#### Picture It:

When a leader wants to know how many people live in his kingdom or nation, he can call for a census, which is just a fancy word for counting the people. As the ruler of Rome, Caesar Augustus wanted to count all the people in the whole Roman Empire. To make counting people easier, he told everyone to go back to the town their family came from. This is why Mary and Joseph had to return to Bethlehem.

Remember that back in Mary and Joseph's day they did not have cars. They had to walk.



#### Read:

Read Luke 2:1-7 and Matthew 2:1-6



#### Talk it Out:

In Matthew, we see the wise men come to find baby Jesus. He also included words from the prophet Micah. Long before Jesus was born, even before Mary and Joseph were born, God told Micah that a Savior would be born in Bethlehem. That tells us that Jesus was not born in Bethlehem by accident. All of it was a part of God's plan.

How did the chief priests know that Jesus would be born in Bethlehem?



#### Read:

Luke 2:8-21

#### Ask:

- Can you think of a Christmas song that tells part of the story we just read?
- What did the angel of the Lord tell the shepherds?
- What did Mary do with the story the shepherds told her?
- Why was the angel's message, that Jesus was born, considered good news?

Sing your favorite Christmas hymn, and then thank God for the good news that Jesus was born.

