

# The First Christmas Gift



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Jesus is born

Luke 1:26-38; 2:1-20;

Matthew 1:18-25



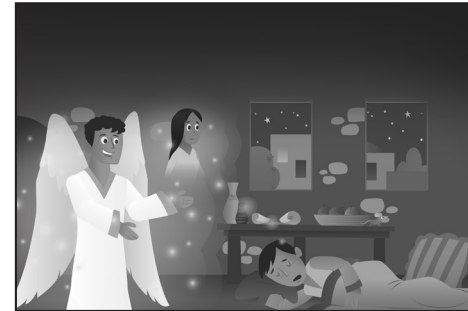


The angel, Gabriel, told Mary, "You will have a baby!"  
"How?" asked Mary. "I'm not married."  
"God's Holy Spirit will come down to you. The baby will be God's Son." Mary believed him.



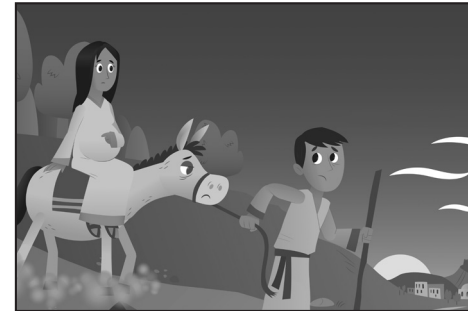


Mary was engaged to Joseph, but he didn't believe her story. So an angel visited him, too. "Mary's not lying. Her baby will be God's Son. You must name Him Jesus."





Many months passed. Then they traveled to Bethlehem, Joseph's hometown, to be counted by the government. After that long journey, Mary was ready to give birth.







But all the inns in Bethlehem were full. So God's Son was born in a stable, wrapped in cloths, and laid on a bed of hay. They named Him Jesus.



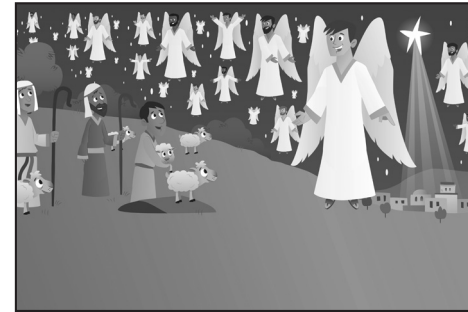


That night, an angel appeared to some shepherds in the hills near Bethlehem. "Good news!" the angel said. "Your Savior has been born. He's in Bethlehem, lying in a manger."





Suddenly more angels appeared, so many of them that they filled the skies. "Praise God in heaven!" they all sang. "And may everyone who pleases Him receive His peace."







When the angels left, the shepherds hurried to Bethlehem. They found the baby, their Savior, lying on a bed of hay. It was just as the first angel had said.







After the shepherds had seen Jesus, they went through the town. They were very excited! They told everyone what had happened, and they praised God for what He had done!

