

5-Day Christmas Story Devotional for Families  
Scripture is NIV

Day 1

The Angel Gabriel Visits Mary

**Read**

Luke 1:30-33

30 But the angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary. God is very pleased with you. 31 You will become pregnant and give birth to a son. You must call him Jesus. 32 He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High God. The Lord God will make him a king like his father David of long ago. 33 The Son of the Most High God will rule forever over his people. They are from the family line of Jacob. That kingdom will never end."

**Think**

Could you imagine being there? What did you hear and see as the story was told? What do you think was going on in Mary's heart and mind in this story? How would you have responded if you were Mary? What emotions do you think you may have had? What did you learn about Jesus?

**Pray**

Lord, help us to expect the unexpected from You. Give us eyes and ears to hear and see you.

**Listen**

How does this story make you want to love and serve Jesus?

Day 2

Joseph Has a Dream

**Read**

Matthew 1:20-23

20 But as Joseph was thinking about this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream. The angel said, "Joseph, son of David, don't be afraid to take Mary home as your wife. The baby inside her is from the Holy Spirit. 21 She is going to have a son. You must give him the name Jesus. That's because he will save his people from their sins." 22 All this took place to bring about what the Lord had said would happen. He had said through the prophet, 23 "The virgin is going to have a baby. She will give birth to a son. And he will be called Immanuel." (Isaiah 7:14) The name Immanuel means "God with us."

**Think**

What did you wonder about these verses?

What do you think was the most important part of today's reading?

Why do you suppose that the angel came in a dream and not in person?

**Pray**

Help me not to forget that You are always with me. Immanuel!

**Listen**

After listening to this story, God wants me to \_\_\_\_\_.

Day 3

Joseph and Mary Go to Bethlehem

**Read**

Luke 2:3-7

3 Everyone went to their own town to be listed. 4 So Joseph went also. He went from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea. That is where Bethlehem, the town of David, was. Joseph went there because he belonged to the family line of David. 5 He went there with Mary to be listed. Mary was engaged to him. She was expecting a baby. 7 She gave birth to her first baby. It was a boy. She wrapped him in large strips of cloth. Then she placed him in a manger. That's because there was no guest room where they could stay.

**Think**

What were you imagining as the story was being told? How did it make you feel?

What do you think Bethlehem was like with all the people arriving from all over?

I wonder how Mary felt? Joseph?

What is something you never realized about this story?

**Pray**

Thank you, God, for sending Jesus to show us your love.

**Listen**

From what you read today, what might the Holy Spirit be asking you to do?

Day 4

The Shepherds

**Read**

Luke 2:8-14

8 There were shepherds living out in the fields nearby. It was night, and they were taking care of their sheep. 9 An angel of the Lord appeared to them. And the glory of the Lord shone around them. They were terrified. 10 But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid. I bring you good news. It will bring great joy for all the people. 11 Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you. He is the Messiah, the Lord. 12 Here is how you will know I am telling you the truth. You will find a baby wrapped in strips of cloth and lying in a manger."

13 Suddenly a large group of angels from heaven also appeared. They were praising God. They said,

14 "May glory be given to God in the highest heaven!  
And may peace be given to those he is pleased with on earth!"

**Think**

Could you imagine being there? What did you hear / see / smell as the story was told?

What do you think was the most important part of today's story?

Has God ever surprised you with something?

What is some good news that you would like God to tell you?

**Pray**

We celebrate the good news. Thank you for sending Your Son, Jesus, for me.

**Listen**

How do you think God wants you to have a part in His story?

Day 5

The Shepherds Visit Jesus

**Read**

Luke 2:15-18

15 The angels left and went into heaven. Then the shepherds said to one another, "Let's go to Bethlehem. Let's see this thing that has happened, which the Lord has told us about."

16 So they hurried off and found Mary and Joseph and the baby. The baby was lying in the manger. 17 After the shepherds had seen him, they told everyone. They reported what the angel had said about this child. 18 All who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds said to them.

**Think**

What stood out to you in the story?

What surprised you or amazed you about today's story?

How do you feel about Jesus now?

What Good News would God want you to share with your family and friends? What will make that easy or hard to do?

**Pray**

Jesus, bless these children with a boldness to tell others the Good News of Your birth.

**Listen**

What does God want me, specifically, to do with what I have learned from the story?