



## THE COMING KING

# LOVE

GOD'S LOVE IS REVEALED THROUGH THE BIRTH OF JESUS.

## TEACH

Love—Jesus is Born in Bethlehem!

Open the Bible to Luke 2:1-7 and read the passage together as a family. Each person has a place they call their Bethlehem. Usually, this is the place where you grew up and went to school or the place where you were born. Joseph, Jesus' earthly father, was required to go back to his hometown, so the empire could have record of every person. Joseph was living in Nazareth so he and Mary traveled to Bethlehem knowing their Son could be born at any moment.

Remember in week one when we talked about prophecy? In this passage, a prophecy in the Bible is fulfilled. God promised to show His love to the world through a family from Bethlehem, and He did—through the birth of Jesus (Micah 5:2). In fact, Joseph was from the same family line as King David.

In this passage alone, we see three important parts of the Christmas story: Bethlehem, Mary, and Joseph. Each part expresses God's love in a different way. Turn your Bible to 1 John 4:9. It says, "*God's love was revealed among us in this way: God sent His one and only Son into the world...*" God loves us so much that He sent Jesus to be born of Mary and then sent her to the town of Bethlehem where God's love would take human form just as the prophecy said.

## ASK

### Younger Kids:

1. What is something that makes you feel loved?
2. How do we know God loves us?

### Older Kids:

1. How is God's love different than the world's understanding of love?
2. What does it mean that "*God is love*" (1 John 4:8)?
3. How can you show God's love to others this Christmas?

## SHOW

### Younger Kids:

Watch our on-demand video program for children, KidVue. Watch the episode for this week about "Love" on [kidvue.org](http://kidvue.org).

### Older Kids:

Watch BibleProject's video ([bibleproject.com/videos/agape-love](http://bibleproject.com/videos/agape-love)) about what the word "Love" means in the Bible.

## TABLE ACTIVITY

**Option 1:** Have each family member go around the table and say one or two reasons why they love each person at the table. What better place to express God's love for others than with our families?

**Option 2:** Graham Cracker Nativity Items Needed:

- Graham Crackers
- Icing
- Animal Crackers
- Gummy Bears
- Shredded Coconut
- Paper Plates
- Plastic Knives

1. Build the nativity stable with the graham crackers, using the icing to hold the graham crackers together.
2. Use animal crackers to depict the animals present in the stable and use the shredded coconut to build a manger.
3. With the nativity built and finished, read Luke 2:1-7 once again. Imagine what it was like in the stable that night when Jesus was born and remind your family of Jesus' love for all people.

## PARENTS

In week seven of Fight for Your Family ([bellevue.org/family](http://bellevue.org/family)), the foundational truth was Family. Look at the family of Jesus in the story this week. Mary and Joseph loved each other, but they also loved God. They obeyed Him and that obedience led them to serve each other. As a family, discuss how each of you can serve the others in your home and look for opportunities to serve each other in the future.

## SING

Parents, pick your favorite version of "O Come, All Ye Faithful" and sing along as a family. This song is about the special place where Jesus was born, Bethlehem.