No room, and good news

Everything you need to share The First Christmas at home this week: a few minutes for you, a few minutes with your kids, and simple ways to keep the story going at the table, in the car and at bedtime.

Read Luke 2:1–20 before the kids wake up, or during nap time. (Luke 2:1–20)

The first Christmas was not calm. A forced trip, a full town, a birth in an animals' room. Mary had every reason to feel that nothing had gone to plan.

And yet every detail was God's plan: the right town, the right family line, the right night. What looked like 'no room' was the stage for God's best gift.

The news went first to shepherds on a night shift, tired people doing unseen work. If you have ever felt unseen in the middle of the night with a baby or a worried child, notice who God told first.

This December will be busy. The angels' message is still the same for you: Do not be afraid. Good news of great joy. A Savior has been born to you. Let your kids see you receive it, not just decorate for it.

REFLECT

Where does your Christmas season feel like 'no room'? What would it look like to make room for Jesus there?

PRAY

Lord Jesus, you came small and humble, for me. Quiet my heart this Christmas, and help my kids see that you are the best gift. Amen.

Little Lantern

THIS WEEK WE'RE LEARNING



The First Christmas

Luke 2:1–20

God's good news is for you.

"Today in the city of David a Savior has been born to you. He is Christ the Lord!" Luke 2:11

ASK AT DINNER

What good news about Jesus could our family share this Christmas?

PRAY

God, thank you for sending Jesus. Help our family share your good news. Amen.

✂ Cut here. One card for the fridge, one for the car.

Little Lantern

CAR-RIDE CARD



On the way

The First Christmas · Luke 2:1–20

Listen: Play the Listen version of The First Christmas on the way.

ASK

1. Where was baby Jesus born?
2. Who did the angels tell first?
3. What good news can we tell someone?

"Today in the city of David a Savior has been born to you. He is Christ the Lord!" Luke 2:11

BEDTIME AND PLAY · THE FIRST CHRISTMAS

Keep the story going

BEDTIME ROUTINE

Lantern-out in five steps



1. Lights low. Play the Listen version of The First Christmas (Little for ages 3–5, Big Kid for 6–9), or read it from the app.
2. Ask one question: “What’s your favorite part of the Christmas story?”
3. Say the verse together with the motions: “Today in the city of David a Savior has been born to you. He is Christ the Lord!”
4. Pray: “God, thank you for sending baby Jesus. Thank you that the good news is for me. Amen.”
5. Lights out. You can say: “God is with you, even in the dark.”

KITCHEN

Manger snack

Make a ‘manger’ from a pretzel-stick crib and shredded-wheat hay, with a marshmallow baby. Retell the story while you build.

LIVING ROOM

Living-room nativity

Act out the story with bathrobes and towels: Mary, Joseph, shepherds, and a doll for Jesus.

OUTSIDE

Star walk

Go out after dark and look at the stars. Talk about how the sky filled with angels the night Jesus was born.

IN THE CAR

Car-ride story

Play the Listen version, then ask: “Who heard the news first?” and “Who could we tell?”

SIBLINGS

Two ages at once

The older child reads Luke 2:11 like the angel while the little one ‘wakes up’ as a shepherd.

THE FIRST CHRISTMAS · STICKER CHART

My good-news week

Little Lantern

Each day, share a little good news or a little kindness, like the shepherds did. Add a sticker or color a star!

Monday	Idea: Tell someone “Jesus was born for you”	
Tuesday	Idea: Make a card for a neighbor	
Wednesday	Idea: Sing a Christmas song to someone	
Thursday	Idea: Give a toy or clothes to someone in need	
Friday	Idea: Help set up the nativity	
Saturday	Idea: Say thank you to God for Jesus	
Sunday	Idea: Invite a friend to church	

“Today in the city of David a Savior has been born to you. He is Christ the Lord!”

Luke 2:11

THE FIRST CHRISTMAS · MINI-BOOK

Make a mini-book

Print the next page on one sheet (landscape, actual size). One sheet folds into an 8-page book kids can “read” to siblings and grandparents.

STEP 1

Fold

Fold the sheet in half the long way, then in half twice more the short way, so you have 8 little panels. Unfold.

STEP 2

Cut

Fold it in half the short way again. Cut along the middle crease from the fold to the center, just one panel deep.

STEP 3

Open

Unfold. Fold the long way again and push the ends together so the cut opens into a diamond.

STEP 4

Flatten

Keep pushing until it flattens into a little book. The cover is on the front. Read it together!

The First Christmas

This book belongs to _____

Mary was going to have a baby very soon.

At last they reached Bethlehem — but the little town was full!

Out on the hills nearby, shepherds were watching their sheep through the dark night.

Suddenly — whoosh!

"Come on!"

The shepherds knelt by the manger, and the little lamb peeked over the edge at baby Jesus.

“Today in the city of David a Savior has been born to you. He is Christ the Lord!”

Luke 2:11

God’s good news is for you.

THE FIRST CHRISTMAS · TRACING PAGE

Trace the big idea

Trace the letters with a crayon or pencil. Then say it out loud!

GOD'S GOOD

NEWS IS FOR

YOU.



God's good news is for you.

A bed of hay for baby Jesus



Roll three little hay snakes and one tiny baby. Put one on each circle, then lay the hay together and tuck baby Jesus in the manger.

1

2

3

4

“Today in the city of David a Savior has been born to you. He is Christ the Lord!” Luke 2:11