

Mission Arlington • Mission Metroplex Christmas Curriculum • 2009

LIGHT OF THE WORLD

LESSON 5

Is the Light in You?

Luke 2:8-20



Scriptures

John 1:1-18, 3:19-21
Matthew 5:14-16
Isaiah 42:6, 49:6
Ephesians 5:8
Colossians 1:12
1 Peter 2:9
1 John 1:5, 7
1 John 2:8-10
Revelation 22:5

Memory Verse

In the same way, let your light shine in front of others. Then they will see the good things you do. And they will praise your Father who is in heaven.
Matthew 5:16 (NirV)

Lesson Goals

Understand that an angel announced Jesus' birth to the shepherds

Understand that this announcement is for everyone

Understand that believers are the light of the world that our Savior shines through

Understand the responsibility to go and tell others

A couple of lessons ago I asked you what you would do if you were stumbling around at night in the woods and someone offered you a lamp or flashlight. Let's say you were wise enough to take it. What would you do if you found someone else along the way who was stumbling around in the dark? Would you share the light you have?

In our last lesson we talked about the birth of Jesus, the Light of the World. He slept in a manger because when Joseph and Mary arrived in Bethlehem, the city was very full and there was no room for them in the inn. Can you imagine the cries of baby Jesus startling the cows, donkeys, and sheep?

A baby's cry wasn't the only startling thing that night. You see, "there were shepherds living out in the fields nearby. It was night and they were looking after their sheep." (Luke 2:8 NirV) All of a sudden an angel appeared to them and it didn't just startle them, it terrified them! The angel comforted them, "Do not be afraid. I bring you good news of great joy. It is for all the people." (Luke 2:10 NirV)

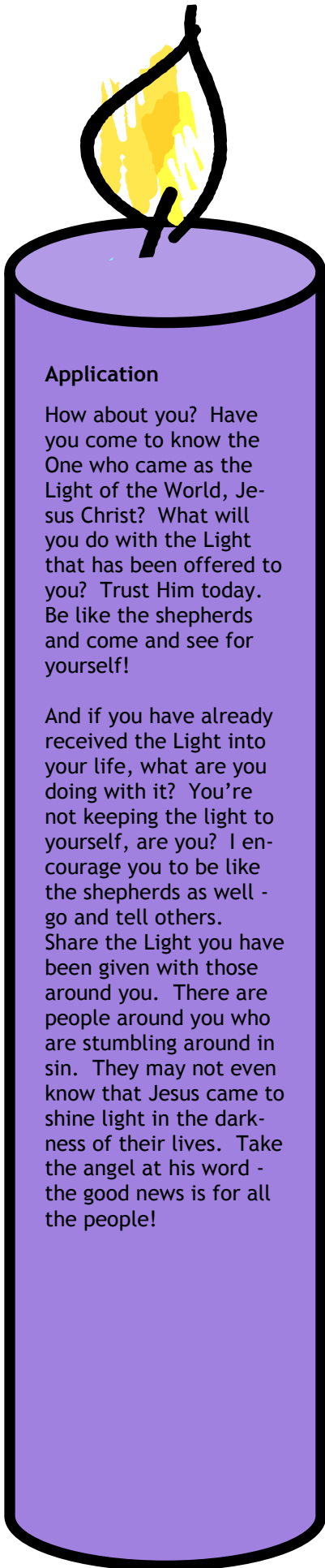
Good news! And for everyone, . . . what could it be? The angel continued, "Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you. He is Christ the Lord." (Luke 2:11 NirV) The angel even told the shepherds how they could find the Christ; He would be the baby wrapped up in cloths with a manger for a bed.

And then, a lot of other angels joined the one who made the announcement to the shepherds. They all praised God and they said, "Praise God in heaven! Peace on earth to everyone who pleases God." (Luke 2:14 CEV) Then the angels went back to heaven.

Good news for everyone. Good news, even for the shepherds! What would they do with this good news?

They hurried off to Bethlehem to see what the angel had been talking about. They found things just as the angel had said. Jesus, the Christ, the Light of the World, had come as a helpless baby and was wrapped up and lying in an animal feeding trough.

Once they had seen the Light for themselves, they couldn't keep quiet. They took the angel at his word that this news was for all the



Application

How about you? Have you come to know the One who came as the Light of the World, Jesus Christ? What will you do with the Light that has been offered to you? Trust Him today. Be like the shepherds and come and see for yourself!

And if you have already received the Light into your life, what are you doing with it? You're not keeping the light to yourself, are you? I encourage you to be like the shepherds as well - go and tell others. Share the Light you have been given with those around you. There are people around you who are stumbling around in sin. They may not even know that Jesus came to shine light in the darkness of their lives. Take the angel at his word - the good news is for all the people!

people and “they told everyone. They reported what the angel had said about this child.” (Luke 2:17 NIV)

Do you know that when Jesus grew up He taught people about God and about how to please God? One time, when Jesus was teaching from the side of a mountain, He told His followers, “You are the light of the world.” (Matthew 5:14 NIV) How can we be the light of the world if Jesus is the Light of the world? Once we decide to follow Jesus, to put Him in control of our lives, something amazing happens. We are reborn. What do I mean by “reborn?” Choosing to follow God and give Him control of our lives is called being “born again.” It’s like starting over, but this time we have help. That help is God in our body in the form of the Holy Spirit. That means the Light of the world is in us and shines through us! Isn’t that amazing?

When Jesus taught about us being the light of the world, He also said, “people do not light a lamp and put it under a bowl. Instead, they put it on its stand. Then it gives light to everyone in the house. **In the same way**, let your light shine in front of others. Then they will see the good things you do. And they will praise your Father who is in heaven.” (Matthew 5:15-16 NIV) Is the Light in You? If not, what are you waiting for? And if so, Go . . . and let your let shine!

Review

1. What happened the night of Jesus’ birth? (An angel announced good news to the shepherds for all people.)
2. What was the good news? (Jesus, the Savior, had been born!)
3. What did the shepherds do after they heard the good news? (They went to Bethlehem to see for themselves.)
4. What did the shepherds do after they had seen Jesus? (They told everyone.)

Activities

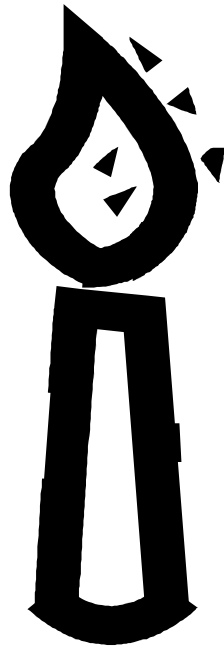
Memory Verse Activity - Practice telling others about Jesus. Review the Christmas Story and encourage your students to retell it.

Sing “Turn Your Eyes Upon Jesus,” “How Great Our Joy,” “Joyful, Joyful We Adore You,” “Go Tell it On the Mountain,” “Tell Me the Story of Jesus,” “Angels We Have Heard on High,” “Angels From the Realms of Glory,” “Hark the Herald Angels Sing,” “The First Nowell,” “This Little Light of Mine,” “Thy Word,” “Shine, Jesus, Shine,” “Walk, Walk, Walk, Walk in the Light,” “Go Light Your World,” “The Light of the World is Jesus,” “Carry the Light,” “God of This City,” and “In Christ Alone” (by Keith Getty and Stuart Townend).

Make candy cane crafts. Talk about how the shape of the candy cane reminds us of a shepherd’s staff and how it also forms the letter “J.” Practice sharing the story of Christmas with a candy cane.

Make paper plate angels. Curl paper plates into a cone shape and decorate with wings and a face.

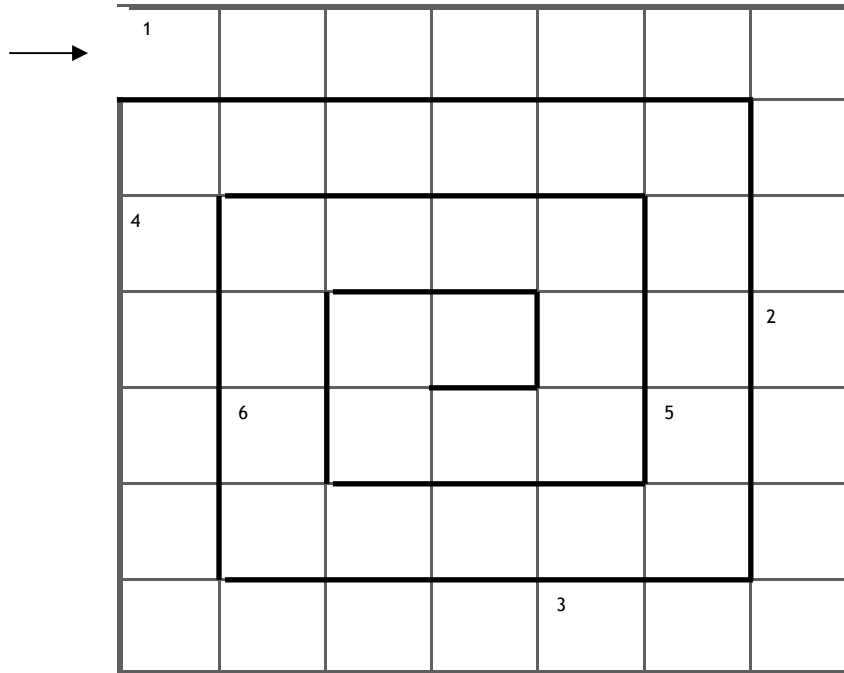
Reenact the story. Bring costumes or make them from robes, sheets, even paper grocery bags. Be creative.




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let your light shine
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And they will praise your
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Matthew 5:16

Light Lessons



1. Who were taking care of sheep the night of Jesus' birth? _ _ _ _ _
2. What appeared to them? an _ _ _ _ _
3. What did the angel announce? the _ _ _ _ _
4. After the other angels appeared, what did they do? _ _ _ _ _
5. Where was Jesus when the shepherds found Him? in a _ _ _ _ _
6. What did the shepherds do after they worshipped Jesus? they went to _ _ _ _ _
_ _ _ _ _


 **Word Box**

manger	praise God	tell everyone
shepherds	good news	angel

Light Lessons

→	¹ S	H	E	P	H	E	R
	R	A	I	S	E	G	D
	⁴ P	L	L	E	V	O	S
	S	E	N	E	E	D	² A
	W	⁶ T	O	Y	R	⁵ M	N
	E	R	E	G	N	A	G
	N	D	O	O	³ G	L	E

1. Who were taking care of sheep the night of Jesus' birth? shepherds
2. What appeared to them? an angel
3. What did the angel announce? the good news
4. After the other angels appeared, what did they do? praise God
5. Where was Jesus when the shepherds found Him? in a manger
6. What did the shepherds do after they worshipped Jesus? they went to tell every-one

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Word Search

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a i r k h t p a r y w h s r d
s e l i h t t v g h i l u g l
r d a n b e e o a p e h s e e
g a r b i l n r b y g h g j i
a t n e m e c n u o n n a l f
b n a t h g b e t z a r p l n
r i l h z p a b e m a r g t i
i g i l r f e e b t o n o d h
a h l e k r a h a a w t a b r
i t e h l b i t s a b r n e l
w l l e t d n a o g o y d t e
n o h m a n y a n g e l s e w
z d a k r o n j e s s o e t k
a r e t w n e s s n e j e i w

shepherds

in fields

at night

angel

announcement

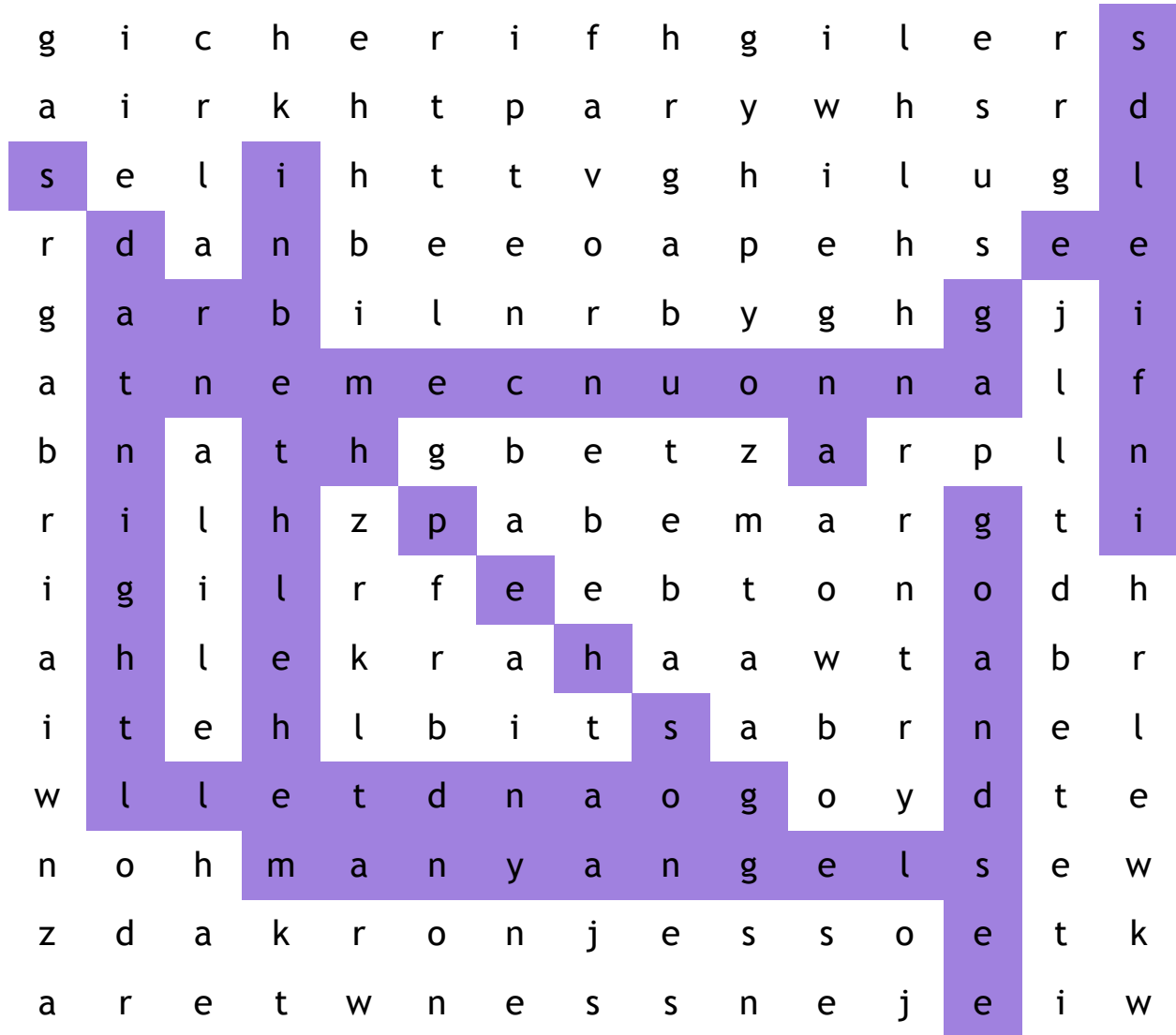
in Bethlehem

many angels

go and see

go and tell

Word Search



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