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| BIG IDEA: | Jesus is God's gift to the world so we can share that gift with others |
| BIBLE BASIS: | Matthew 1:1-16 & Luke 3:23-38 |
| KEY VERSE: | "He will be great, and will be called the Son of the Highest; and the Lord God will give Him the throne of His father David." Luke 1:32 |

THE BIG BIBLE STORY

Watch the video here: https://youtu.be/OvZW58LOg_k

Jesus is the Son of God, which means that He is fully God. But when Jesus was born on earth as a little baby, He had human parents too. Their names were Mary and Joseph. Jesus is fully human as well. Jesus is both fully God and fully human; that makes Him different from any other man.

Like all people on earth, Jesus' family had a history—a family tree. Jesus had parents, grandparents, great-grandparents, great-great-grandparents...all the way back to Adam and Eve in the garden of Eden.

The Bible says Adam and Eve had children. Three of their sons were named Cain, Abel, and Seth. When Seth got older and had a family, his wife had a baby. Seth named his son Enos (EE nahs). Enos grew up and had a family too, and his great-great-grandson was named Enoch (EE nuhk). Enoch loved God, and he was part of Jesus' family.

Then there was Noah! Noah obeyed God and built an ark to save his family from a great flood. Noah was part of Jesus' family too. Abraham was in Jesus' family, and so was his son Isaac. When Isaac had a family, one of his sons was named Jacob. Jacob was part of Jesus' family.

Years later, a man named Salmon (SAL mahn) was born into Jesus' family tree. He married Rahab (RAY hab), who had hid the Israelite spies when they came to Jericho. Rahab had a baby, and his name was Boaz (BOH az). Boaz was a farmer, and he married Ruth. Boaz and Ruth had a son named Obed (OH bed).

Obed's son was Jesse. Jesse had many sons, and the youngest was David. David was just a boy when he was chosen to be Israel's king. King David liked to write. He wrote songs—called psalms—and some of them were about the time when Jesus would come to earth.

Other people in Jesus' family were kings too. David's son Solomon was a king. King Jehoshaphat (jih HAHSH uh fat) was part of Jesus' family, and so was Uzziah (uh ZIGH uh), Ahaz (AY haz), Hezekiah (HEZ ih kigh uh), and Josiah.

Then came Matthan (MAT than). Matthan's son was named Jacob, and Jacob's son was named Joseph. Joseph is the man who took Mary to be his wife. Mary and Joseph were the earthly parents of Jesus, God's Son—the Messiah.

Christ Connection: Jesus came to earth as a baby in Bethlehem. Jesus had earthly parents, Mary and Joseph, but His true Father is God. Jesus was still God the Son when He came to earth, but He also took on the form of a man. Jesus was born to save people from their sins.

BIG BIBLE STORY QUESTIONS

For Preschoolers:

- What was your favorite part of the story?
- Why do you think people are so excited to tell others about Jesus?

For Elementary:

- What was your favorite part of this story?
- What do you think this story teaches us about God?
- What do you think about Jesus being fully God and fully man?

BIG BIBLE STORY ACTIVITIES

Prayer prompt: Write a prayer thanking and praising God for the greatest gift ever—the gift of Jesus.

Journal prompt: Make a list of all the people you want to tell about God’s gift of Jesus. Write down what you want to say to them.

Bible prompt: Read it for yourself: Luke 2:1-21. Write about or draw a picture of your favorite part of that story.

Art prompt: Draw a picture of baby Jesus lying in a manger. Below it, write the words, “I can share God’s gift with others.”