Christmas Session 1: Prophets Told About Jesus **Preschool Class| December 5, 2021**

Bible Passage: Isaiah 7; 9; 11; Micah 5

Story Point: Prophets told about the Messiah.

Key Passage: "God sent his Son…to redeem those under the law." Galatians 4:4-5

Big Picture Question: Why was Jesus born? Jesus was born to rescue us.

LEADER DEVOTIONAL

When Adam and Eve introduced sin into the world, all of creation fell under a curse. (See Gen. 3:17-19.) We all have sinned and fallen short of the glory of God. We've inherited the curse of death from Adam. (See Rom. 3:23; 5:12.)

Throughout the Old Testament, the consequences of sin are obvious. God's people were separated from Him; they did not enjoy the intimate relationship with their Creator for which He had created them. God's people were affected by sickness and pain. Corruption spread quickly throughout the earth. The situation seemed hopeless, yet God did not leave His people without hope.

It was into this hopelessness that God spoke. Hundreds of messages came through the prophets concerning a coming Messiah—One who would rescue people from their sins. But when would this Promised One come? How would He come? Would the people recognize Him?

The prophets Isaiah and Micah—who both lived hundreds of years before Jesus was born—spoke specifically of the Messiah's birth. Isaiah told King Ahaz what the Lord would do. "The virgin will conceive, have a son, and name him Immanuel" (Isa. 7:14). He described the birth of a Prince of Peace—a Son of David who will reign forever. (Isa. 9:6-7) Isaiah said that He would be a King! (Isa. 11:1-5) The prophet Micah named the specific town—Bethlehem—in which Jesus would be born. (Mic. 5:2)

As you teach preschoolers about the prophecies concerning Jesus' birth, help them understand that everything God said about Jesus' birth came true. Hundreds of years later, Jesus was born into the world. God's plan to rescue people from sin was not a secret plan. God gave His people hope: A Savior is coming. Though death came through Adam, life comes through Christ. (1 Cor. 15:22) Through His death on the cross, Jesus finished the work for our salvation. In Him lies our hope of forgiveness and eternal life. Jesus reconciles to God those who trust in Him.

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WELCOME

Play music in the background as you greet preschoolers and welcome them to class. As children enter, have them decorate a paper bag. They will place their crafts, coloring pages, activity pages, and Big Picture card in the bag for easy transportation home. After children are finished decorating their bags, line them up outside the classroom along the wall for easy distribution and pick-up.

**** Please remember to reference the class schedules posted in your room for the timing of your class's various activities.*

ACTIVITY PAGE

activity page, 1
pencils or crayons

Invite preschoolers to draw a line connecting the letter beside the quill to the matching letter on the scroll.

SAY • Today we will hear what two prophets, Isaiah and Micah, wrote about Jesus long before He was born. Prophets were people who listened to God and told the people what He said. God told the prophets a lot about Jesus.

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BIBLE STORY

****Three-year-old classes will line up and march to 3B at 9:40/11:10.*

****Four-year-old classes will line up and march to 4B at 9:25/11:00.*

Prophets Told About Jesus' Birth

Isaiah 7;9; 11; Micah 5

Long ago, before Jesus was born, God gave messages to some men. These men were prophets; they told God's messages to people. The messages were about things that God was going to do. The prophets wrote down God's messages in the Bible. Two of the prophets were named Isaiah and Micah. They wrote down messages from God. **God said that one day Jesus would come.**

Isaiah the prophet lived hundreds of years before Jesus was born on earth. **Isaiah wrote down God's message about Jesus. Isaiah wrote that** God would choose a woman to be Jesus' mother. Jesus' mother would not be married yet. Isaiah also said that **when Jesus was born, one of Jesus' names would be Immanuel. *Immanuel* means "God with us."**

Later, Isaiah talked about Jesus again, and he wrote these words in the Bible. **Isaiah said**, "A child will be born for us, a son will be given to us, and the government will be on His shoulders." That meant **that Jesus was coming, and He would be a King.**

Isaiah also said, "He will be named Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Eternal Father, Prince of Peace." Even more names for Jesus! All of Jesus' names tell us **who Jesus is and what great things He would do. Jesus was going to come to earth to help people and keep them safe. He would be a loving king, and He would bring peace to the whole world.**

Isaiah had a third message about Jesus. This time, Isaiah talked about Jesus' family. Isaiah wrote these words in the Bible too. **Isaiah said that Jesus would be part of Jesse's family. Jesse was King David's father. Then Isaiah said that God would be with Jesus, and Jesus would be wise and strong. He would do the right thing and be fair.**

Finally, **Micah the prophet told a message about Jesus.** These words are **in the Bible too. Micah said that Jesus was going to be born in** a town called **Bethlehem**. **He said that Jesus was going to be a ruler. Hundreds of years later, everything that God told Isaiah and Micah came true.**

Christ Connection: God had a great plan to rescue people from sin. God's plan was not a secret plan. The prophets told people about God's plan. They said God would send a Messiah: Jesus! Jesus would be born into the world as a baby. Jesus would live a perfect life and die on the cross to rescue people from sin.

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CRAFT

See your bin for today's craft example.

Help children decorate their ornament and write Jesus.

SAY • Long ago, God told the prophets about Jesus. Jesus' name is on your paper. Do you remember some of the other names the prophet Isaiah called Jesus? (*Immanuel, Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Eternal Father, Prince of Peace*) **Prophets told about the Messiah.**

GAME

Pass the Message

Gather all the children together. Tell them you are going to give clues about someone in the room. Then as you give more and more details (hair color, shirt color, shoe type, and so forth), ask the children to raise their hands and guess whom you described. When someone guesses correctly, repeat the game with another child to guess.

SAY • Before Jesus came, God told the prophets about Him.They did not give clues about Jesus in the same way I gave clues about you, but they wrote down special things about Jesus so that when He came, people would know He is the Messiah!

OPTIONAL ACTIVITY

Sing a Song/Play a Game

Choose a song to sing or a game to play from the optional activities folder in your binder.

SNACK AND PRAYER

Take a restroom break and wash hands or use hand sanitizer. Choose volunteers to help set up for the snack. (Crackers and cups for water located in the cabinet above the sink.) Pray and thank God for the snack. Two-year-olds read bible lesson during snack while other preschool classes discuss the following:

As kids eat:

Remind preschoolers that God planned to rescue people from sin by sending the Messiah—His own Son, Jesus.

Prophets told about the Messiah. Jesus would be born into the world as a baby. Jesus would live a perfect life and die on the cross to rescue people from sin. ***Why was Jesus born? Jesus was born to rescue us.***

Bible Story coloring page

Crayons and markers

paper clips and sticky notes (optional)

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CLOSING ACTIVITES

Before doing closing activities please have the children help you clean up the toys and materials that have been used today. After the room is cleaned up, set out markers or crayons and let kids work on today's **Bible Story Coloring Page** until their parents arrive. You can also choose a book to read to the children as they color or for those who don't want to color. Please make the effort to have the children quietly engaged when parents arrive.

When parents arrive to pick up their children, tell them something that their child enjoyed doing or did well today.

Send kids home with their worksheets/crafts and this week's *Big Picture Card.* Place an *"Ask me what I learned today"* sticker on each child before they leave.

BEFORE YOU GO…

Please clean up by doing the following:

1) Put away any remaining toys.
2) Use sanitizing spray to wipe down tables.
3) Sweep up any cracker crumbs or dirt.
4) Please return your bin, binder, and sign-in clipboard to the resource room across from Toddler A.

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