



Story of  
CHRIST

Written by: Andrew Noe

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## **Our Mission:**

At Youth Ministry Conversations, we believe you know your group best. This means our resources look a little different than what you may have experienced in the past. We try and create a “buffet” of material so you can choose and pick what works best for your group. You will find ideas, instructions, and possibilities in this packet all related to the theme of “The Story of Christ.” How you use them, and how you structure your study is up to you. We hope you enjoy this resource and return in the future to check out other materials.

## **This Study:**

There are so many wonderful stories of Christ. This study takes a chronological journey through the life of Christ as told in the gospels. Students will be engaged to follow along from Birth to Resurrection. Games, activities, small group moments, large group discussions all help to cover the story of the week. The hope is your teenagers see the story as a whole, made up of moments.

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## The Writer:



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## The Birth of Christ

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**Focus:** To begin the journey of the story of Jesus with his birth to Mary and Joseph.

**Scripture:**

1. Matthew 1:18-25
2. Luke 1:67-2:7
3. John 1:1-14

**Supplies:**

- Bibles
- Post-it Notes
- Baby food (for game)
- Paper/markers (for Instagram activity)
- Scripture cards (print and cut out)
- Mini-poster boards and markers (for small group activity)
- A photo of a baby (small & wallet size, enough copies for each person)

**Background on scripture and topic:**

The Jews are anxiously awaiting a messiah they believe will deliver them from the Roman oppression. Their hopes and fears rest on the belief that the messiah will be a warrior sent to lead an army taking them home and restoring God's nation/kingdom on Earth.

**Parent email prompt:**

Parents, this week we will begin our focus on the life of Christ. Our lesson is centered on the Birth of Jesus. Feel free to follow up after the lesson by asking your children "Why do you think it was important for God to become human?"

**Text Prompt the night before:**

*Hey everyone don't forget Bible study this week on \_\_\_\_\_ at \_\_\_\_\_. We are starting our journey through the life of Christ. Don't miss it!*

**Game: Feeding baby**

Have a collection of five different types of baby food (unlabeled). Ask for three volunteers. Assign the rest of the students to be “supporters” equally divided amongst the three volunteers.

Give the three volunteers a chance to taste each of the five baby food types and make guesses on what they each are. Whoever gets the most correct guesses wins the game. They and their supporters are awarded candy bars.

**Prayer Time:**

Go around the room and ask the youth to share prayer requests. Have a volunteer write these on post it notes, and stick them on the wall next to the door people use to leave. Encourage everyone to grab a post it note on the way out, and pray for that item in the following week.

**Activity: Instagram picture:**

Divide the youth into three groups. Give each group one of the three scripture cards (Matt. 1:18-25, Luke 1:67-2:7, John 1:1-14). Each group has 5 minutes to read the story, and make a picture using themselves as the characters and props, as if the picture was going to be on Instagram. One person in the group will hold up a caption for the photo.

For added fun, take the photo and post it on your ministry’s Instagram account, or the church’s Facebook account.

**Scripture Reading:**

Ask one youth from each of the groups to read out loud the scripture their group had. Share any background for the scripture you think might be helpful.

**Large Group discussion questions:**

- If this is the only story you heard about Christ/God what would you think/learn?
- What was God relying on us, as humans, to do in this story?

**Small group questions:**

- Why did God want to come to earth?
- Why did God come as a baby?
- How do you think Joseph and Mary felt?
- When you think about God being born as a baby in a barn, what is your reaction?
- Why do you think God was born in a barn instead of a palace?
- Why would the Emperor want to kill him? What threat did Jesus pose?
- If you could ask any question about this event what would it be?
- What one word stands out to you from what you read?

**Small group activity:**

Together as a group on a mini-poster board have them draw or write one word or picture that they think captures this moment from Jesus' life. Hang this up in the small groups' area. This activity will repeat each of the 15 weeks to give a collage of Jesus' life.

**Tangible Item they leave with:**

Give each student the baby photo, and remind them that God trusted humans (Mary and Joseph) to take care of Jesus, the most precious baby in the world.

Scripture Card Handouts- The Birth of Jesus

Matthew 1:18-25

Luke 1:67-2:7

John 1:1-14