

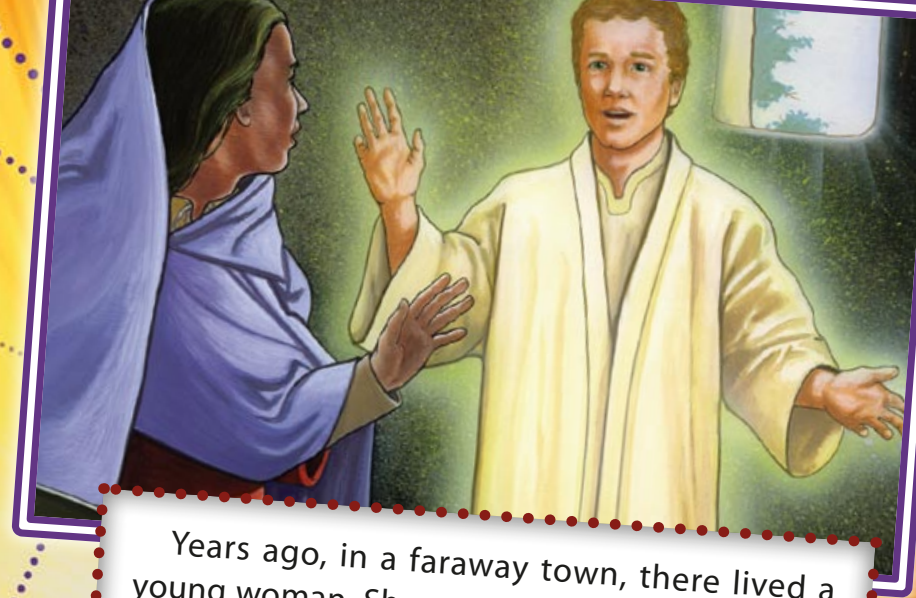


Meet the  
**King!**

**PREVIEW ONLY**

## Dear parents,

This booklet is offered free of charge to your children so that they may learn about Jesus – Who He is and what He has done. We hope you will encourage your children to read it, or better still, that you will read it together with them.



Years ago, in a faraway town, there lived a young woman. She was not rich or famous, but she did not mind. She was going to get married soon – **that was exciting!**

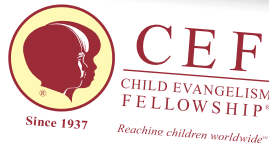
One day she had a visitor. It was not her neighbour or her cousin, but an angel, a special messenger sent by God.

The young woman was scared. You would be too, if you met an angel!

“Don’t be afraid!” the angel said. “God has chosen you for something special.”

***Whatever could it be?***

“You are going to have a baby,” the angel said. “Give Him the name Jesus. He will be the Son of God, a King.”



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"But how?" gasped Mary. (That was her name.) "I'm not married yet."

"That's no problem to God", the angel explained. "This will happen by a miracle. God the Holy Spirit will do it."

"I am ready for whatever God wants," Mary replied.

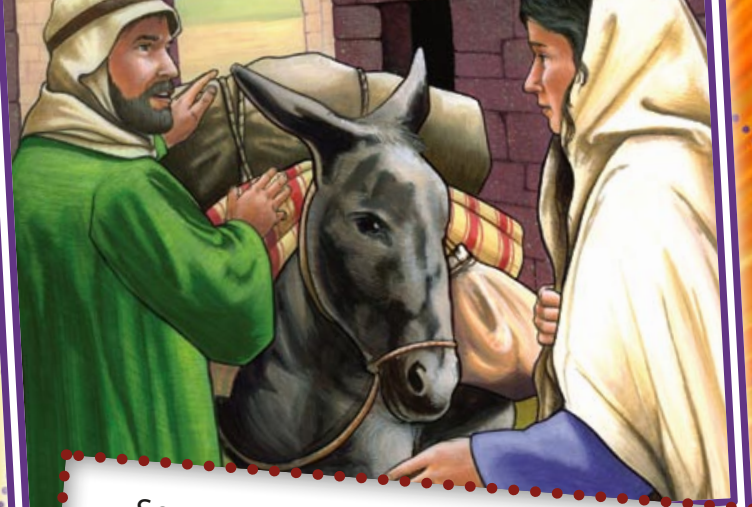
When the angel left she had a lot to think about:

... She was going to have a baby.

... He would be God's Son.

... **A baby King!**

God has only one Son. He always lived with God His Father. So He was there when the world was created. We read in the Bible that "all things were made through Him" (John 1:3).



Some time later Mary knew that her baby would soon be born. It was a bad time to travel but she had to make a journey.

The Emperor had ordered a census. That means he was counting all the people in his empire and everyone had to go to his family town.

Together Mary and Joseph travelled nearly 120 kilometres from Nazareth to Bethlehem. Perhaps they walked, perhaps Mary rode a donkey.

Bethlehem was buzzing with people. The tired couple could find nowhere to stay and had to settle for the night in a place where animals lived.



That night the baby King was born. "His name is Jesus," Mary and Joseph whispered as they gently wrapped Him and placed Him in the cattle's feeding trough.

Joseph knew the baby was not his child, but he was very happy to help care for Him. An angel had told Joseph that the baby was God's Son. "Name Him Jesus," the angel had said, "For He will save His people from their sins."

How would Jesus save His people from their sins? Joseph did not know.

*God's Son was coming on a rescue mission; He would rescue people from their sins. Sins are the wrong things we do against God, like telling lies, being selfish, disobeying a parent or stealing. Sin is thinking, saying and doing as we wish, rather than obeying God. In the Bible God tells us that "we have turned, every one, to his own way" (Isaiah 53:6).*

Nobody in busy Bethlehem knew about the miracle baby. But God sent His messenger, an angel again, to tell the good news to some shepherds.

There was dazzling light all around the angel. Like Mary, the shepherds were frightened when they saw him.

"Don't be afraid," he said. "I'm here to tell you good news. It's good news for you, and for the whole world. A Saviour has just been born in David's city. He is God's Promised One and He is King. He is wrapped up in strips of cloth, lying in a manger."





Suddenly the night sky was ablaze with angels. They were all praising God for sending His Son to earth.

When the angels went back to Heaven, the shepherds talked it over. "Let's go," they decided. They ran to Bethlehem and found the only baby in the city who had a feeding trough for His bed.

They gazed in wonder at the little boy. They knew that He was their Saviour and King.

On the way home they told everyone they met:

"This baby is God's promised One."

"He is the Saviour!"

**"A King!"**

*Saviour  
means rescuer.  
You and I need to be  
rescued from our sin. Because  
of sin we cannot live as God  
wants. Sin keeps us out of God's  
kingdom and stops us from being His  
friends. We all deserve to be punished  
for our sins, and God would be  
perfectly right to punish us forever.  
But instead, He sent His Son to  
save us.*



It was dangerous to be a baby King – like Jesus was.



Another King, Herod, did not like the idea. He tried to kill the new King. But God kept His Son safe. He had sent Jesus to “save His people from their sins” – nobody else could do that.

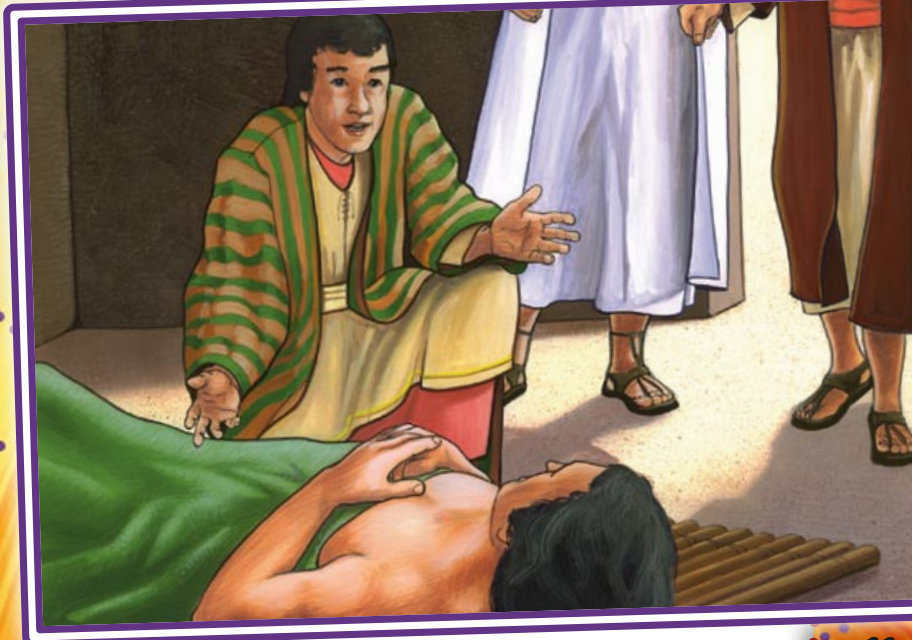
Jesus grew up in Mary and Joseph’s home in Nazareth. He was a real boy and looked just like other boys. He learned to read and write. Perhaps Joseph, a carpenter, taught Him to make things from wood. He played with His brothers and His friends. He knew what it was like to be happy, sad, excited, lonely and hurt. And Jesus was once the age you are right now!

But in one way He was very different. He did not fight with His brothers. He did not disobey at home. He was always kind, unselfish and truthful. Even His thoughts were always good. He was the only perfect person. Ever!

When Jesus was an adult, He went around teaching people about God’s kingdom. He showed people what God is like. He did things which only God can do.

One day a man who could not walk got a surprise. Four friends said, “We’re taking you to Jesus.”

They carried him through the streets. But there were so many people crowding the house where Jesus was, they could not get near Him.



But the friends did not give up. They carried the man up the outside steps to the flat roof. **They even made a hole in the roof!** They lowered their sick friend right in front of Jesus.

### *What would Jesus do?*

He looked at the man and saw he had two big problems.



Jesus chose to sort out the bigger problem first. So He said, "Son, your sins are forgiven."

Some people thought, "What? Only God can forgive sins."

They were right, but they did not know that Jesus was God and man.

Next Jesus solved the man's other problem. "Get up," he said, "take up your bed and walk." At once the man got up and walked! That day Jesus did two miracles for one man.



*Forgiven means that all the wrong you have done is no longer a problem between you and God. He treats you as if you had never done it. In the Bible God says it like this: "I will forgive their iniquity, and their sin I will remember no more" (Jeremiah 31:34).*

# Time with God is important!

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