



## Family Discipleship Resource

**Key Point: God is compassionate.**

**He sees, cares, and acts when His children are in need.**

This week we looked at the birth of Jesus and saw that God is compassionate. He sees, cares, and acts when His children are in need.

**Capture discipleship moments:** After dinner one evening, talk through the questions below. Anytime we open the Bible and talk about God, we need to pray and ask Him to help us because only God can teach our hearts. Pray with your family for God to give understanding and belief.

1. I want you to think about what you saw and heard in the large group lesson. Was there anything about the birth of Jesus that surprised you?
2. What was different about Jesus than other babies? **He was (and still is) the Son of God.**
3. What attribute of God are we talking about today?  
**God is compassionate: He sees, cares, and acts when His children are in need. (Use motions!)**
4. Today we learned that God saw His children were in need. What need did He see?  
**He saw that they were slaves to sin and could not save themselves. They needed a savior.**
5. What does it mean for God's children to be slaves to sin?  
**That their hearts are sick with sin, and there is nothing that they can do to make that better.**
6. Can we save ourselves from sin? **No!**
7. Why is sin such a big problem? **It separates us from God because He is Holy. There is nothing worse than being separated from God.**
8. How does God feel about sin? How does God feel about His children being in sin?  
**God is angry with sin, and He is right to punish sin. He feels sadness and anger about His children being slaves to sin. But God is also compassionate –He wants sinners to turn away from sin and be set free to know, love, trust and obey Him.**
9. What did God do when He saw that His children were trapped in sin? Did He turn His head and look the other way? **No, God cared about the fact that His children needed to be saved.**
10. God saw His children's need and cared about it. Did He also take action?  
**Yes. He saw their need, cared about it and then acted.**
11. What did God do?  
**He sent Jesus to save His people from their sin.**

Open to and read **Matthew 1:21**. (Explain that in this verse, an angel of the Lord was talking to Joseph about Mary and the baby she was about to have.)

**She will bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins." All this took place to fulfill what the Lord had spoken by the prophet.**

1. Who was the savior God sent to save His people? **Jesus.**
2. What did Jesus come to save them from? **Their sins.**

3. Why did they need to be saved from their sins? **God is holy- He is completely perfect and separate from sin. Their sins separated them from God.**
4. Do you need to be saved from sin? **Yes. We are all born with hearts that love and trust things other than God. We all need to be forgiven for sin.**
5. How is someone saved from their sin?  
**By loving and trusting Jesus and turning away from sin.**
6. What does that mean?  
**It means that you understand and believe that you are guilty of sin and need to be saved and that Jesus died in your place for sin, taking the punishment you deserved. By believing and trusting in Jesus' death on the cross, you are forgiven for your sin and adopted into God's family.**

Open to and read **John 1:12** together. **But to all who did receive him, who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God,**

Tell your kids that this verse is talking about Jesus. Read it again, and everywhere it says "he," "him," or "his," have them say "Jesus" instead.

1. Do you know what an orphan is? What do you know about orphans?
2. What is it called when an orphan is brought into a new family? **Adoption.**
3. Are we born inside or outside of God's family? **Outside, because of sin.**
4. What happens to those who believe in Jesus? What do they become?  
**They are adopted as children of God.**
5. Is there any way for sinners to be adopted into God's family apart from loving and trusting Jesus? **No.**
6. Why do we take so much time to remember and celebrate the birth of Jesus? Why is it important?  
**At Christmas we remember God's faithfulness in sending a savior to rescue His children from sin. If Jesus had not come, if He had not lived a perfect life and died in the place of sinners, we would have no hope of being with God.**
7. Is the birth of Jesus real or pretend? How do you know?  
**It is true. It really happened. We know that because we see it in the bible, and the bible is God's true word.**
8. Is it easy or difficult for you to remember that Christmas is about Jesus? Are there things that distract you from Jesus during this time of year?
9. What can you do to remember that Christmas is about Jesus?

**Create discipleship time:** Recap by asking your kids what they learned, as they **color their Compassionate Attribute Sign** for your Attribute Wall at home.

1. What is one thing you learned about God today?  
**God cares about the needs of His children.**
2. What is one thing you learned about yourself today?  
**I can trust that God sees and cares for His children.**

**Pray together as a family.** Ask each member of your family – parents included – to share one thing they would like prayer over. Have someone pray for that person’s request. Challenge them to pray for that person all week long. Parents, pray a blessing over your children as you close.

**MVOTM.** *And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we have seen his glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth. John 1:14*