



# Meet the King!

## 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.

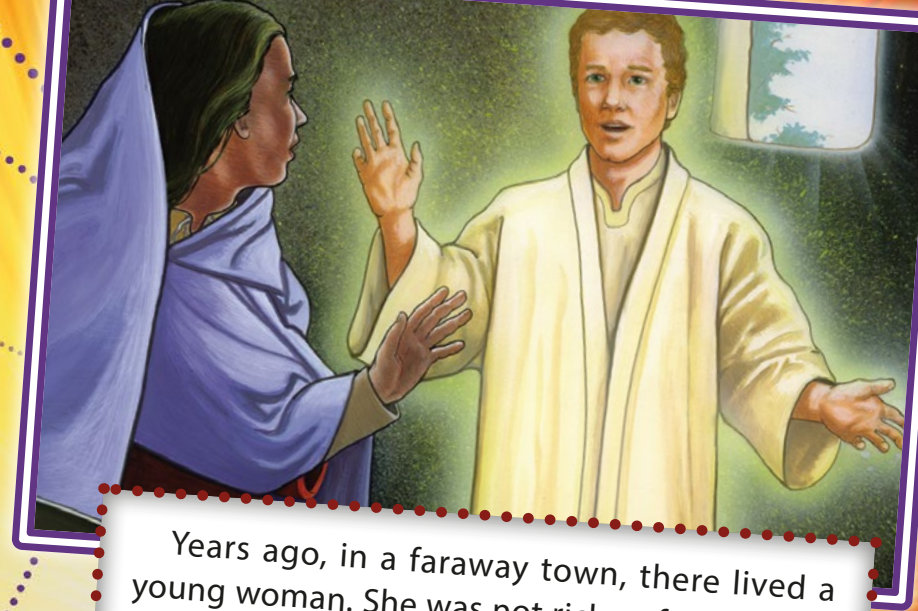


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Years ago, in a faraway town, there lived a young woman. She was not rich or famous, but she did not mind. She was going to get married soon – **that was exciting!**

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.”





"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!

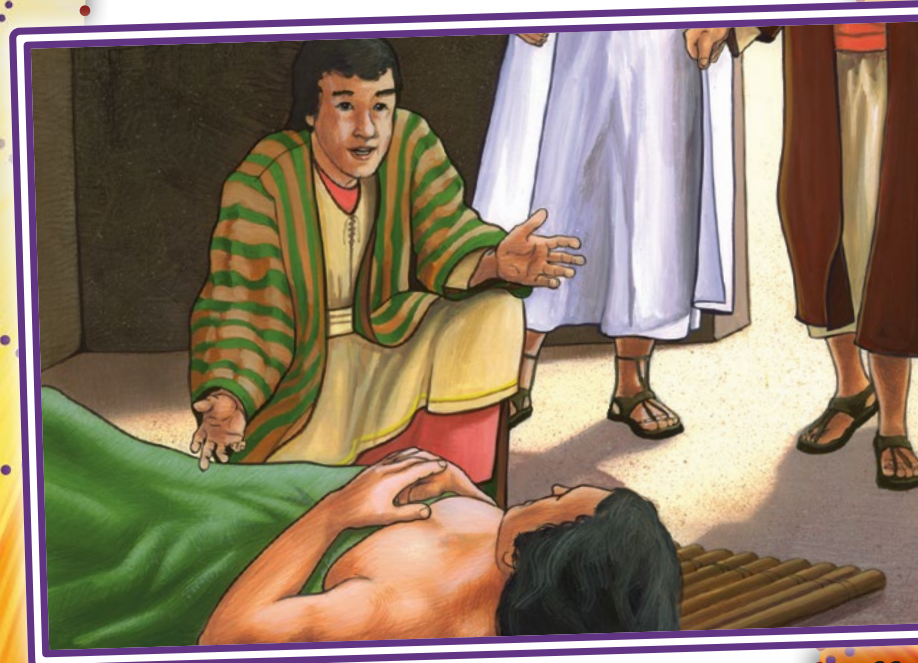
But in one way He was very different. He did not fight with His brothers. He did not disobey at home. He was always kind, unselfish and truthful. Even His thoughts were always good. He was the only perfect person. Ever!



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.

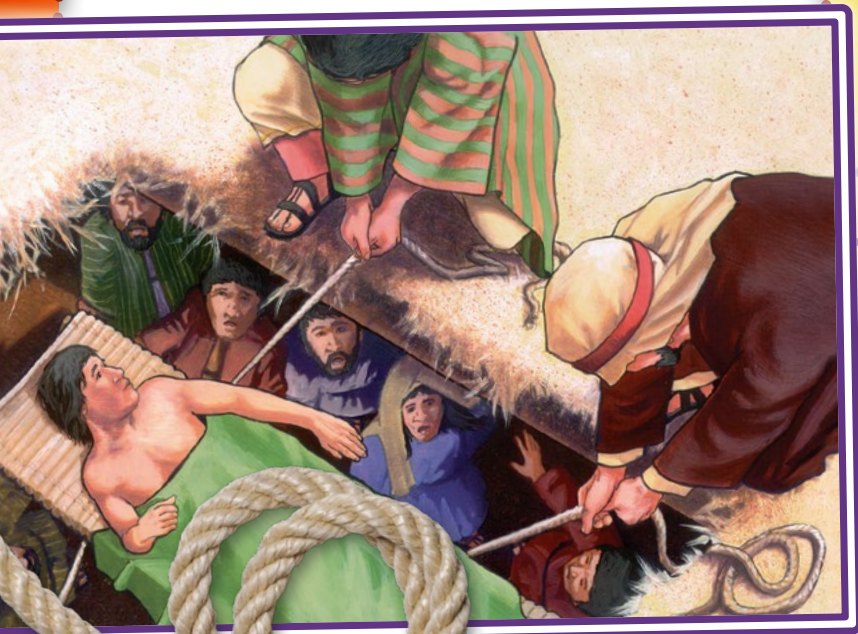




But the friends did not give up. They carried the man up the outside steps to the flat roof. **They even made a hole in the roof!** They lowered their sick friend right in front of Jesus.

### ***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).*



Some people believed in Jesus and followed Him. Many enjoyed His miracles, but did not want Him as King of their lives. Some religious leaders hated Him for saying He was God's Son.

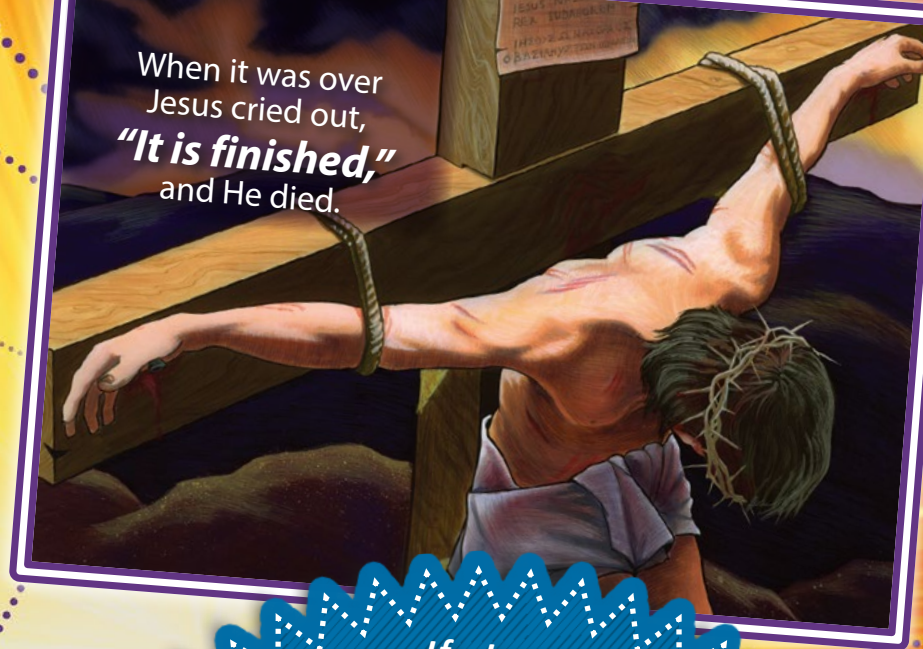
One day Jesus was arrested. His enemies set up a sham trial and it was decided He must die. He had the power to escape, but He chose not to. He knew He was obeying His Father.

The Roman soldiers mocked Him. Using long, sharp thorns, they plaited a crown and pushed it onto His head. They dressed Him in a purple robe and hit Him hard, saying, "Bravo – King of the Jews".

Soldiers marched Jesus to a hill outside Jerusalem. There they nailed Him to a cross. They put a sign above His head. It read, "Jesus of Nazareth, King of the Jews."

People watched Jesus hanging on the cross. But they did not see all His pain. At midday it became dark as God punished His Son for our sins. That is what made Jesus' death the worst ever.

When it was over  
Jesus cried out,  
**"It is finished,"**  
and He died.



*If Jesus  
had not died,  
nobody could have their sins  
forgiven. God must punish all sin  
because He is always right and fair. But  
God loves you so much that He planned  
this rescue mission and sent His Son to suffer  
and die. Jesus loves you so much that He was  
willing to take the punishment you deserve. Jesus  
died "to save His people from their sins." Think  
about these words from the Bible: "...the Son  
of God...loved me and gave Himself for me"  
(Galatians 2:20).*





Some of His friends lovingly put His body in a cave. They had so hoped He was the King. But now, He was dead.

The rulers made sure no one would get into the cave.

A large slab of rock was rolled across the entrance. It was sealed and soldiers were put on guard. That Saturday was a long, sad day.

Early on Sunday there was an earthquake. Two angels came and rolled away the stone from the cave-tomb. The frightened guards ran away.

Some women came to the grave. They planned to put more spices on the body of Jesus. "He is not here, He is alive!" an angel told them, "Come. Look." The women looked and later Peter and John went in to see for themselves. Jesus was not there. Where was He?

Jesus was alive again and out and about.

Mary Magdalene met Him in the garden where the tomb was.



Jesus joined two friends as they walked along a road.

He suddenly appeared in the room where His disciples were. They also met Him on the lake shore and had breakfast with Him.

Over the next 40 days more than 500 people saw Him walking around.

***King Jesus was alive, He would never die again.***



One day Jesus and His followers went up a mountain. As He was talking to them, His feet left the ground. He went up, up, up into the sky. His friends watched until a cloud hid Him from view.



As they gazed open-mouthed, two angels came. "He will come back in just the same way," they explained.

The Lord Jesus Christ had returned to Heaven.

Can you imagine the welcome King Jesus received in Heaven? God honoured Him far above anyone else. He is King over everything.

*There is nobody like King Jesus! In the Bible we read "Nor is there salvation in any other, for there is no other name under heaven given among men by which we must be saved" (Acts 4:12). He is the only One Who can rescue you from sin and the punishment you deserve. You can have forgiveness only through Him. Only He can help you live God's way. He is the only way to God and Heaven.*



King Jesus is in Heaven now but one day He will come back to our world. He will punish forever all those who have chosen to live their own way. He will welcome all His forgiven friends. They will live with their King in His wonderful kingdom which never ends. Jesus Christ can be your Saviour and King:

- Are you really sorry that you have lived your own way rather than God's?
- Do you want to be different?
- Do you believe that Jesus took the punishment you deserve when He died on the cross?
- Are you willing for Jesus to take control of your life?

If your answers have been yes, yes, yes, yes, then talk to King Jesus now. You can tell Him something like this:

"Dear Lord Jesus, I have lived my own way and done wrong things and I am really sorry. Please forgive me. Thank You for dying for me. From now on



I want You to be in charge of my life. Please help me to live the way You want".

If you tell this, or something like it, to King Jesus, there is a great promise in the Bible for you: "Whoever calls upon the name of the Lord shall be saved" (Romans 10:13).

When Jesus Christ rescues you from sin, a whole new way of life begins!

- You will never again be alone. The Lord Jesus promises, "I will never leave you" (Hebrews 13:5). Your King is always with you. You can talk to Him about anything at any time. You will get to know Him more and more as time goes by.
- Jesus, your King, will help you to live as He wants, even when it is difficult. These words are in the Bible: "I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me" (Philippians 4:13).
- When you sin again, tell Jesus. "He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins" (1 John 1:9).
- You learn more about God and His ways as you read the Bible. The Bible is God's Book so it is very important to read it, believe it and obey it.

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