

Talk About It:

- What's the best news you've ever heard? How did it make you feel?
 - If you had good news to share, how would you share it?
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Read About It:

After Jesus was born in Bethlehem, the good news was shared with a group of people who were taking care of their sheep. Read this story from Luke 2:8-20:

There were shepherds living out in the fields nearby. It was night, and they were taking care of their sheep. An angel of the Lord appeared to them. And the glory of the Lord shone around them. They were terrified. But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid. I bring you good news. It will bring great joy for all the people. Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you. He is the Messiah, the Lord. Here is how you will know I am telling you the truth. You will find a baby wrapped in strips of cloth and lying in a manger."

Suddenly a large group of angels from heaven also appeared. They were praising God. They said,

"May glory be given to God in the highest heaven!

And may peace be given to those he is pleased with on earth!"

The angels left and went into heaven. Then the shepherds said to one another, "Let's go to Bethlehem. Let's see this thing that has happened, which the Lord has told us about." So they hurried off and found Mary and Joseph and the baby. The baby was lying in the manger.

After the shepherds had seen him, they told everyone. They reported what the angel had said about this child. All who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds said to them. But Mary kept all these things like a secret treasure in her heart. She thought about them over and over. The shepherds returned. They gave glory and praise to God. Everything they had seen and heard was just as they had been told.

- How would you have felt if you were one of the shepherds who heard the angels' message?
 - The shepherds hurried to go find the baby they had been told about. How fast do you think they ran to get there?
 - What do you think the shepherds praised God for that night? How do you think they felt after seeing Jesus?
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Sing About It:

Angels We Have Heard on High is a Christmas carol about the angels' announcement to the shepherds that Jesus had been born. Sing along with this song on YouTube:

[Angels We Have Heard on High](#) (Lifetree Kids, Songs of the Christmas Story, Group Publishing)

Think About It:

- The shepherds were afraid when the angel appeared to them in the night. But soon, they realized the angel had good news for them. The Savior had been born!
 - Why do you think the shepherds were afraid of the angel? What do you think an angel from heaven is like?
 - What do you think the shepherds did with their sheep that night? Did they take them with them, or leave them behind in the field? What would you do?
 - The shepherds found baby Jesus exactly how the angel said they would – wrapped in strips of cloth and lying in a manger. How do you think they felt when what they saw exactly what the angel said they would see?
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Make It:

This week, add some sheep to your nativity scene. If you have cotton balls, you can glue some onto the sheep for their wool. Or just use crayons or markers to color them. Cut them out, then glue them onto the same paper with Mary, Joseph, and baby Jesus.

Do It:

The shepherds praised God for all they had seen and heard on the night Jesus was born. We have a lot of reasons to praise God, too! Here are some ways to praise God this week:

- Sing! Here's a great playlist of songs to help you praise God: [Lifetree Kids](#)
 - Write a few sentences or a poem praising God for the gift of Jesus.
 - Draw or paint a picture of the shepherds praising God on the night Jesus was born.
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Pray About It:

Give God lots of praise! Tell God how wonderful He is, and how thankful you are for all that God has done for you.

Memorize It:

She will give birth to a son, and they will call him Immanuel, which means 'God is with us.
Matthew 1:23

Nativity Craft - Sheep

