

LESSON 15: THE CHRIST CHILD IS BORN

The people of Israel waited for two thousand years for the Messiah. God sent a little child, His own Son, Jesus to be the Light of the World. God the Father invited Mary to be a part of this plan to save His people. He had given her a gift which we call Mary's Immaculate Conception – she was created free from original sin. Mary's quiet "yes" was the beginning of His loving plan to rescue them. God also chose a good man named Joseph to marry her and be the foster father of Jesus.

On the night of Jesus' birth, Mary and Joseph walked from inn to inn looking for shelter in Bethlehem. Jesus was born that night in a stable among the animals and Mary wrapped Him tenderly in soft cloth and laid Him in a manger. An angel appeared to the shepherds and proclaimed the Good News. Full of wonder, they ran to be the first to adore Him. Later three wise men followed a great star to find the Child Jesus and brought Him precious gifts for a King.

Words to know:

- Bethlehem:** the town where Jesus was born
Humble: not proud
Foster father: a man who takes the place of a real father
Manger: a box that holds feed for animals
Stable: a place where farm animals eat and sleep

Questions and Answers

1	<i>Did Jesus Christ always exist?</i> As God, Jesus Christ has always existed; as man, He began to exist from the moment of the Incarnation.
2	<i>From whom was Jesus Christ born?</i> Jesus Christ was born of Mary ever-virgin, who therefore is called and is truly the Mother of God.
3	<i>What was the name of the Angel that was sent by God to Mary?</i> The Angel Gabriel was sent by God to tell Mary that she was chosen to be the mother of God.
4	<i>But was not St. Joseph the father of Jesus Christ?</i> St. Joseph was not the true father of Jesus Christ; as the spouse of Mary and guardian of Jesus, he was believed to be His true father, although actually he was not.
5	<i>Where was Jesus Christ born?</i> Jesus Christ was born at Bethlehem, in a stable, and He was placed in a manger.
6	<i>Why did Jesus Christ wish to be poor?</i> Jesus Christ wished to be poor in order to teach us to be humble and not to place our happiness in the riches, the honors, and the pleasures of this world.