JESUS WAS BORN



LEADER BIBLE STUDY



CONTEXT AND COMMENTARY FOR PERSONAL STUDY AND PREPARATION

(For age-appropriate language, use the Bible story statements in the leader guide.)

Have you ever bought a new watch? Not one with a silicone band, but an old-school watch with a band made of links. For the first few days of wearing the watch, you notice it all the time—a pinch on the arm, a little extra weight, a flash of light reflecting off it. But something happens after a few days. You stop noticing the watch at all, no longer recognizing the pinching and movement.

Scientists call this habituation, which means a "decrease in responsiveness upon repeated exposure to a stimulus." In other words, we block out stimuli around us because our bodies have adjusted to them.

Could we possibly have a spiritual form of habituation when it comes to the story of Christmas? Most of us have read or heard the story of Luke 2 so much that we no longer notice the miraculous birth's power and impact. We read it every year and hit the same notes in our minds so much that we may completely miss the wonder of it all.

For instance, have you ever wondered why God chose to announce the new birth to a group of shepherds instead of someone in the religious establishment? Why would God choose a ragtag group of unclean men who were working the night shift over men who had been studying and waiting for the Messiah for as long as they could remember? Perhaps the religious leaders were too familiar with the things of God and not ready to hear of His new work.

As you pray this week, ask God to help you rediscover the season's wonder. Ask Him to surprise you this year with renewed excitement for the true joy of Christmas.

TEACHER TIP

Clean toys, surfaces, and blankets after each session. Clean shared toys between each baby to reduce germs in the classroom.



LEVEL OF BIBLICAL LEARNING

Jesus was born.

LIFE POINT

Jesus was born as God planned.

BIBLE PASSAGE

Luke 2:1-20

BIBLE VERSE

Mary wrapped Jesus in cloth and laid Him in a manger. *Luke 2:7*

NOTE: Downloadable versions of items identified as *CD* are available in the Music and Print Extras Bundle. Items identified as *DVD* are available in the Digital Video Bundle.

Additional training for Bible Studies For Life: Kids is available at ministrygrid.com/ biblestudiesforlife.