



READ Matthew 1:18-25

Tips for reading with children:

Story tell. *Make the story alive by using different voices, acting out the story, be dramatic. Do your best to make the story real to them. Act out the scene. Get your kids to play different roles and act the story.*

TEACH

What is a prophet? Who is Isaiah (prophet quoted in v.23)?

When did he live? (600+ years before Jesus) *Try to articulate the best you can how long 600 years is. Talk about what a long time to wait this. Read Genesis 3:15 together, and talk about how God's promise of Jesus coming, goes all the way back to the beginning of time, it had been thousands of years!*

What does it say that Jesus had come to do? v.21, *Jesus literally means "Yahweh Saves". Yahweh is God's covenant name given to Moses, and Mary and Joseph would know this. Jesus is the way God saves His people from their sins.*

Why does God have to send Jesus to save us from our sins? (Use the Catechism questions on the back to help guide this)

PRAY

To guide your time of prayer with your family.

What do we need to Praise God for?

What do we need to ask for Forgiveness for?

What do we need to thank God for?

Who can we pray for their needs?

SING

Sing or listen to Silent Night together.

Silent night, holy night!

All is calm, all is bright.

Round you Virgin, Mother and Child.

Holy infant so tender and mild,

Sleep in heavenly peace,

Sleep in heavenly peace

Silent night, holy night!

Shepherds quake at the sight.

Glories stream from heaven afar

Heavenly hosts sing Alleluia,

Christ the Savior is born!

Christ the Savior is born!

Silent night, holy night!

Son of God love's pure light.

Radiant beams from Thy holy face

With dawn of redeeming grace,

Jesus Lord, at Thy birth

Jesus Lord, at Thy birth

Matthew 1:18-25 Now the birth of Jesus Christ[e] took place in this way. When his mother Mary had been betrothed[f] to Joseph, before they came together she was found to be with child from the Holy Spirit. 19 And her husband Joseph, being a just man and unwilling to put her to shame, resolved to divorce her quietly. 20 But as he considered these things, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream, saying, "Joseph, son of David, do not fear to take Mary as your wife, for that which is conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. 21 She will bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins." 22 All this took place to fulfill what the Lord had spoken by the prophet:

23 "Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son,
and they shall call his name Immanuel"

(which means, God with us). 24 When Joseph woke from sleep, he did as the angel of the Lord commanded him: he took his wife, 25 but knew her not until she had given birth to a son. And he called his name Jesus.

Incarnation Catechism Questions

What sort of Redeemer is needed to bring us back to God?

One who is truly human and truly God.

Why must the redeemer be truly human?

That he might on our behalf obey the whole law and suffer the punishment for human sin.

Why must the Redeemer be truly God?

That because of his divine nature his obedience and suffering would be perfect and effective

Was it necessary for Christ, the Redeemer, to die?

Christ died willingly in our place to deliver us from the power and penalty of sin and bring us back to God.

Does Christ's death mean all our sins are forgiven?

Yes. Christ's death on the cross fully paid the penalty of our sin, God will remember our sins no more.