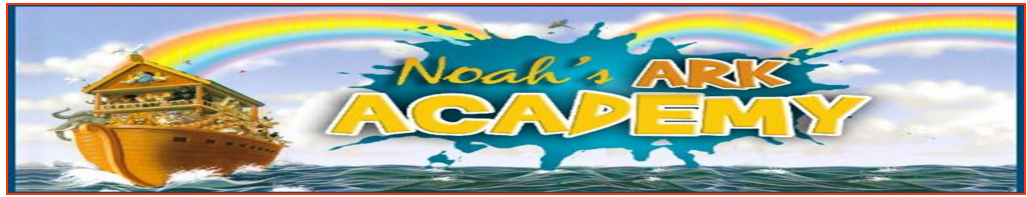


December, 2011

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Noah's Ark Academy Ministry leaders:
Minister Lacy Wooden, Minister of Y.A.F.A.
and Noah's Ark Academy; Tina Widemon,
and Shana Gogoua.

Parent and Kid Connection



The Birth of Jesus Christ

At the time the Roman emperor, Augustus, decreed that a census should be taken throughout the Roman Empire. This was the first census taken when Quirinius was governor of Syria. All returned to their own ancestral towns to register for this census. And because Joseph was a descendant of King David, he had to go to Bethlehem in Judea, David's ancient home. He traveled there from the village of Nazareth in Galilee. He took with him Mary, his fiancée, who was now obviously pregnant. And while they were there, the time came for her baby to be born. She gave birth to her first child, a son. She wrapped him snugly in strips of cloth and laid him in a manger, because there was no lodging available for them.

That night there were shepherds staying in the fields nearby, guarding their flocks of sheep. Suddenly an angel of the Lord appeared among them and the radiance of the Lord's glory surrounded them. They were terrified, but the angel reassured them. "Don't be afraid!" he said. "I bring you good news that will bring great joy to all people. The Savior—yes, the Messiah, the Lord—has been born today in Bethlehem, the city of David! And you will recognize him by this sign: You will find a baby wrapped snugly in strips of cloth, lying in a manger." Suddenly, the angel was joined by a vast host of others—the armies of heaven—praising God and saying,

"Glory to God in highest heaven, and peace on earth to those with whom God is pleased."
-Luke 2:1-14 NLT

The Real meaning of Christmas

Popular culture encourage mixed messages about Christmas. As Christians our message must not be mixed; we must focus on the birth of Jesus.

December's Big Idea

Christmas is a holiday. Christ's birth is a miracle. We should always focus on the miracle, not the holiday.

All information on this page was taken from: Talking about the miracle of Christmas. (2008). *Leading Your Kids to Christ: 30 Devotions to Prepare Parents* (pp. 93-97). Nashville: Freeman-Smith, LLC.



BIG IDEA

But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid, for you see, I announce to you good news of great joy that will be for all the people: because today in the city of David was born for you a Savior, who is Christ the Lord."

-Luke 2:10-11

For your children, Christmas is, perhaps, the most exciting time of the year. But it is wise to never wait until December 25th to celebrate the birth of Jesus. Christians should talk about and celebrate it all throughout the year,

God sent His Son to transform the world and to save it. The Christ Child Was born in the most humble of circumstances: in a non-descript village, to parents of simple means, far from the seats of earthly power.

God sent His Son, not as a conqueror or a king, but as an innocent babe. Jesus did not preach a message of retribution or revenge; He spoke words of compassion and forgiveness. We must do our best to imitate Him.

Just as the shepherds who were tending their flocks on the night Christ was born. May we, like those shepherds leave our own fields—wherever they may be—and worship God's priceless gift: His only begotten Son.



The Answers for Bible Scavenger Hunt and Challenge Your Knowledge from Novembers Newsletter

Bible Scavenger Hunt

1. God
2. Yes, the Bible is true.
3. All Bibles contain chapter and verse numbers.
4. The Bible is a perfect pathway to fine our way through life as we move toward God.
5. People physically wrote the words of the Bible down that was given to them by God.
6. The 2 main divisions in the Bible: Old Testament and New Testament.
7. The New Testament or the Gospel teaches us about Jesus' life.
8. It teaches us God's truth.
9. They're called the Gospels.
10. They're called the Law.
11. (a) John 3:16
(b) "For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life."
12. The Bible
13. There are many, but here are a few: God is all-powerful, that Jesus loves us, and that God is truthful.
14. The Bible is true and trust worthy because it is from God.

CHALLENGE YOUR KNOWLEDGE

1. LOVE=AGAPE (AH-GAH-PEY)
2. JOY=CHARA (KAH-RAH)
3. PEACE=EIRENE (EH-REY-NEY)
4. PATIENCE=MAKROTHUMIA (MAH-KRO-THEW-ME-AH)
5. KINDNESS=CHRESTOTES (KREY-STAH-TEYS)
6. GOODNESS=AGATHOSUNE (AH-GAH-THOS-SOO-NEY)
7. FAITHFULNESS=PISTIS (PISS-TISS)
8. GENTLENESS=PRAUTES (PRAH-OO-TEYS)
9. SELF-CONTROL=EGKRATEIA (EG-KRAH-THE-EE-AH)

FUN ZONE

CHILDREN'S BIBLE ACTIVITY SHEETS THE FRUIT OF THE SPIRIT GALATIANS 5:1, 13-25

Use the natural fruit to discover the Fruit of the Spirit.

Fill in the missing vowels.

Apple = A Lemon = O Grape = I Pear = E Orange = U

L _ V _ J _ Y _ P _ C _

P _ T _ NT G _ D _

F _ TH K _ NDN _ SS

Name _____

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CHILDREN'S BIBLE ACTIVITY SHEETS THE FRUIT OF THE SPIRIT GALATIANS 5:1, 13-25

The Apostle Paul taught that the acts of the sinful nature and the Spirit are in conflict with each other. God wants us to produce the Fruit of the Spirit.

Find the words from the two lists below in the grid. The words can go horizontally, vertically and diagonally in all eight directions. When you are done, the unused letters in the grid will spell out a message given by Jesus. Write the letters in the lines below to learn the message.

FAITHFULNESS	K	L	D	I	S	S	E	N	S	I	O	N	T	H
GENTLENESS	I	O	I	S	S	E	N	H	S	I	F	L	E	S
GOODNESS	N	R	S	I	D	O	L	A	T	R	Y	I	S	T
JOY	D	T	S	S	E	N	L	U	F	H	T	I	A	F
KINDNESS	N	N	E	I	M	P	U	R	I	T	Y	O	M	D
LOVE	E	O	V	Y	S	R	P	F	H	G	A	Y	T	I
PATIENCE	S	C	O	H	A	S	E	A	O	A	T	R	S	S
PEACE	S	F	L	G	Y	G	E	O	T	I	T	L	O	C
SELF-CONTROL	R	L	E	O	Y	T	D	N	L	I	Y	R	H	O
	A	E	J	T	Y	N	O	A	E	U	E	V	E	R
	B	S	E	A	E	R	R	M	U	L	C	N	N	D
	H	F	R	S	U	O	I	T	S	H	T	O	C	E
	W	I	S	N	M	P	E	A	C	E	G	N	Y	E
	O	U	R	M	S	E	L	V	E	S	T	O	E	B
	E	M	I	Y	D	I	S	C	I	P	L	E	S	G

_____ " John 15:8 (NIV)

Name _____

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**December Fruit of the Spirit—
Goodness and Faithfulness**

“Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.” Romans 12:21



“A faithful man will be richly blessed...”

Proverbs 28:20