

6. The Word Became Flesh (Jesus Is Born)



Friday

Place #6 picture (manger) on cross

Scripture: Luke 2:6-7, Isaiah 53:3, Mark 10:32-32, Philippians 2:7-10

2 candles lit before reading

God made sure that we could understand who He is, what He is like and what He wants for us and from us. He did this by sending His son, Jesus. Now we don't just have the written word, we have the Living Word—a real person. When Jesus was born to Mary, people were seeing God in the flesh for the very first time.

And while they were there, the time came for her to give birth. And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped Him in swaddling clothes and laid Him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn.

Even though Jesus' birth signaled the arrival of the Savior that was promised all through the Old Testament, not everyone believed He was the Messiah. In Isaiah, we learn that people hated Him and rejected His message from God:

He was despised and rejected—
A man of sorrows acquainted with deepest grief.
We turned our back on Him and looked the other way.
He was despised and we did not care.

But Jesus knew what the future held for Him...Jesus knew that He was born to die.

And taking the twelve again, He began to tell them what was to happen to Him, saying, "See, we are going up to Jerusalem, and the Son of Man will be delivered over to the chief priests and the scribes, and they will condemn Him to death, and deliver Him over to the Gentiles. And they will mock Him and spit on Him, and flog Him and kill Him."

(Have kids blow out another candle. Do not light again until Easter.)

Even though Jesus had a place in heaven, right beside God, He willingly came to earth as a man and laid down His life in order to pay the price for the sins of the world.

He (Jesus) gave up His divine privileges. He took the humble position of a slave and was born as a human being when He appeared in human form. He humbled Himself in obedience to God and died a criminal's death on a cross. Therefore, God elevated Him to the place of highest honor and gave Him the name above all other names, that at the name of Jesus, every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth.

PRAY: Thank you, Jesus for giving up all the riches in heaven in order to become a man and take the punishment for sin that we deserve.