

## City LG—December 18<sup>th</sup>, 2022

**Today's Bible Story:** Over the Hills and Everywhere (Shepherds and Angels) • Luke 2:8-20

**Today's Bottom Line:** The good news is for everyone.

**Monthly Memory Verse:** *Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you. He is the Messiah, the Lord.* Luke 2:11 (NIRV)

### WORSHIP: "Dance" and "Noel"

"Hello, everyone, and Merry Christmas! Wow, it's so cool that we get to be here together to talk about how Jesus was born. We can read about Jesus' birth right here, in the Bible (*hold up Bible*), in the book of Luke, chapter two. I hope you can take some time today to read Luke two together with your family.

"We've been following God's Big Story throughout the Bible this year, so we've seen how everything led up to the time Jesus came to the world.

"God made everything in the world out of love. When people turned away from God, the perfect world was broken. But God had a plan to bless the whole world through Abraham's family, the Israelites.

"Over and over again, the people turned away from God. Eventually, other nations invaded and captured the Israelites. They must have wondered if God still loved them and had a plan for them. But God DID have a plan! God spoke through prophets about the great Rescuer who was to come.

"After hundreds of years . . . when the time was right . . . God gave us the best gift ever. God sent Jesus to be born in the town of Bethlehem."

"Now, we know that the birth of God's Son would change the entire world—but the world didn't know about it yet!

"In the fields outside Bethlehem, shepherds were watching over their flocks of sheep. That's what our Story Lab is all about today. Let's watch!"

**CG: Lesson Video (Runtime: 10:00)**

"Everyone who heard what the shepherds said was totally amazed. The Savior they had been waiting for had finally come! In the middle of all this celebration, Mary kept everything that had happened in her heart, like a secret treasure.

"But the shepherds couldn't keep this good news to themselves. Like the angel said, the birth of Jesus was good news of great joy for ALL the people. It's good news for everyone—including us today. Let's learn our Bottom Line for this week!"

**CG: Bottom Line Video (Runtime: 1:00)**

**SLIDE: Bottom Line**

**[Bottom Line] "The good news is for everyone.**

"And that's why we celebrate Christmas—because Jesus, our Savior, was born. Jesus is the greatest gift we could ever receive. Let's pray."

**PRAY:** “Dear God, it’s amazing to see how You announced the good news about Jesus. You sent angels to a group of ordinary shepherds, and those shepherds got to visit Jesus! They were so excited about what they’d seen that they went out and told everyone they knew. God, we can see that the good news about Jesus really is for everyone. You sent Jesus to be our Rescuer, and the best gift ever. We are so thankful! We love You, and we pray these things in Jesus’ name. Amen.”

“Our memory verse for this month comes from what the angel said to shepherds. This is in Luke 2:11.

**SLIDE: Memory Verse**

*“Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you. He is the Messiah, the Lord. (Luke 2:11, NIV)”*

“It just goes to show you that Jesus didn’t just come for the people who were considered important, like kings and queens. Jesus came for the whole world. Jesus is the Savior for everyone! And that is VERY good news. It’s the BEST news!

“Remember . . .

**SLIDE: Bottom Line**

**[Bottom Line] “The good news is for everyone.**

“Of course, Jesus grew up and lived His life on Earth with people. He came to show us what God is like. He taught us how to love God and love others. And when Jesus laid down his life and died on the cross for us, He took on the sin and brokenness of the world. Jesus made a way for us to be forgiven. And then He rose from the dead! Now anyone who chooses to follow Jesus can have a relationship with Him that will last forever.

“Now THAT is some really good news! That is the kind of good news that’s worth sharing. Just like the shepherds did, we can tell others about Jesus. And it isn’t just about the words we say. We can SHOW people what a difference Jesus has made in our lives by **treating others the way we want to be treated.**”

**OFFERING TIME:**

All this month, we have been bringing our money to support Vida Nueva Ministries in Piedras Negras, Mexico. Your offering helps people just like you to have the resources they need to experience a new life with Jesus! Here is a picture of our friends Eli and Mandy Garcia and their family...

**SLIDE: Eli and Mandy**

They are our friends and Parkview Global heroes that tell people about Jesus down in Mexico. So, if you brought your offering today, you can bring it up now while this video plays!

**CG: Vida Nueva Ministries Video (Runtime: 2:00)**

**Slide: WinterPalooza**

Also before I go, I want to tell you about an amazing event we have coming up after you come back from Christmas break. It’s called WinterPalooza!!! On January 8<sup>th</sup> (9<sup>th</sup> too for New Lenox) we will be having a party to celebrate the New Year! We’ll have games, crafts, prizes and all kinds of FUN. So grab a postcard on your way out and make sure you tell whoever brought you that you want to be here on January 8<sup>th</sup>!!!!