

WEEK 2

ADVENT

GOD'S PEOPLE TRUST THE KING WILL COME

PRIMARY LESSON GUIDE

THE FOUR KEYS

KEY VERSE

Trust in the Lord with all your heart and do not lean on your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge Him and He will make straight your paths. Proverbs 3:5-6

KEY IDEAS

1. We trust because God's ways are higher than ours
2. We trust even when we do not understand
3. Trust leads to obedience

KEY PASSAGE

Matthew 1:18-25

KEY PRINCIPLES



EVERY CHILD SHOULD KNOW . . .

God's ways are higher than ours so we can trust that His plans are better than ours, too.



EVERY CHILD SHOULD FEEL . . .

loved by a God who gives the greatest gifts.



EVERY CHILD SHOULD BE ABLE TO . . .

discuss ways we can trust and obey God even when we do not understand His ways.



EVERY CHILD SHOULD WANT . . .

to trust and obey God who knows what is best for us.

INTRODUCTION

Advent is a special season to celebrate the first coming of Jesus Christ our Lord and to remember that He has promised He will return again. Advent means “arrival” or “coming”. During this season, we are reminded that the first coming of Jesus was all about saving the world from sin. He left His throne in Heaven to willingly come to the earth as a man (God in human form), offering Himself as the perfect sacrifice to bring salvation and hope to the nations. Advent also reminds us that He has promised He will return for His church and make all things right once and for all.

OPENING ILLUSTRATION

Begin class by playing a trust game with the kids. Place obstacles throughout the room. Blindfold a volunteer and ask them to follow the instructions given to them by the other kids to get safely to the other side of the room. Instruct the remaining kids to help their classmate and keep them from tripping over any obstacles. (Assist with the instruction as necessary!) Explain that sometimes in life there are obstacles we have to overcome or things that God allows us to experience that seem really hard, but God has given His children the Holy Spirit to help guide and instruct us in the way we should go. Mary and Joseph had an unexpected trial to overcome, but God sent an angel to them to instruct them on what to do.

STORY

Read Matthew 1:18-25 or read the Jesus Storybook Bible.

Mary and Joseph were engaged to be married when something unexpected happened. Mary became pregnant with a baby and was going to give birth to a child, but they weren't married yet! This created a problem for them and caused people to ask a lot of questions, including Joseph. He didn't understand how this could be, but he cared for Mary. He was very troubled, and one night an angel appeared to him, telling him exactly what he should do. Instead of leaving Mary, he was told to stay with her and do not be afraid for it was God who caused Mary to become pregnant with a baby. The angel told Joseph that they should call his name “Jesus” for he will save the people from their sins. When Joseph woke up from his dream, he trusted God and took Mary to be his wife.

Discuss a time when it might've been hard for you to trust God.
What should we do when we are afraid?
How do we know God is worthy of our trust?

ACTIVITY

Help the kids make angels. Take a sucker, cover it with a Kleenex, and wrap a gold pipe cleaner around the base of the sucker to secure the tissue. Next, take the excess part of the pipe cleaner on either side and form a loop to create the wings. Remind kids that it was an angel that told Joseph to trust God and take Mary as his wife. As Christians, we have the Holy Spirit who helps us to trust God.

PRAYER

Thank God that He is trustworthy, and His word is always true. Ask God to help you trust in Him even when you do not understand His ways.

SONG

Mary, Did You Know?

Happy Birthday, Jesus by Jesus 4 Life (kids will learn and perform on the Sunday before Christmas)

FAMILY DEVOTIONAL

Matthew 1:24, Psalm 62:5, John 14:15

ACTIVITY

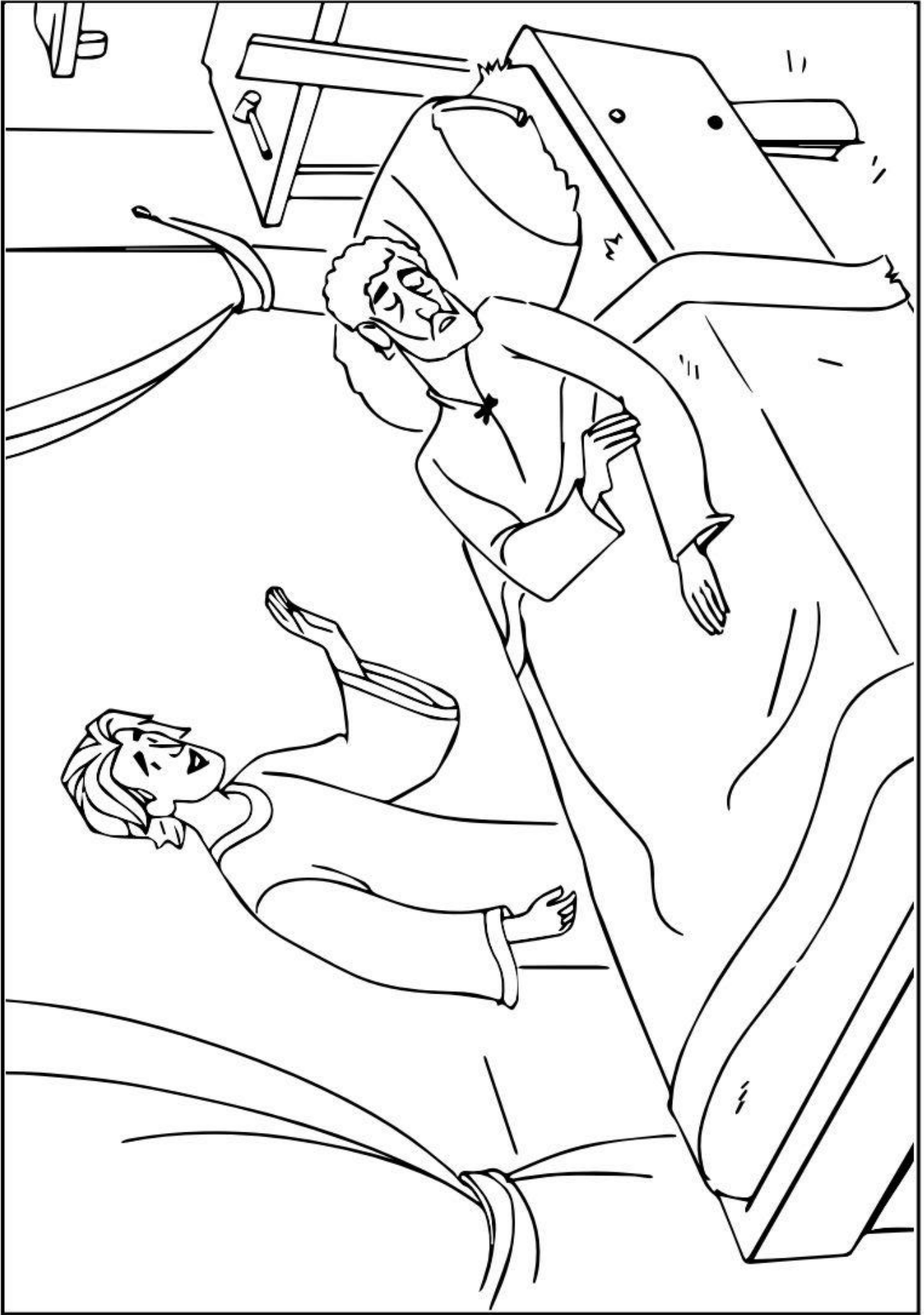
Use the coloring sheet in your take home packet as you work through the discussion guide below.

DISCUSSION

- What if we don't understand why God wants us to do something?
Sometimes we won't know why God wants us to do something, but He asks us to be obedient and trust Him. We can trust Him because He is good and He only does what is good. We can also look back at history and His Word and see how God always keeps His promises. God is the only One who is perfect and that means He can never let us down. He is the most trustworthy being in the universe.
- Why is it important to trust in God's plans?
God's plans are always better than our plans. God knows everything and sees everything that is yet to come, and we can't. So, when we follow His plans, He leads us to where we need to go. When we follow our own plans, we can often get lost.

PRAYER

Thank God that His ways are better than ours, and He always has a plan. Ask God to help you trust in His plan over your own.



Joseph's Story