



God Talk At Home

This Week's Kingdom Quest Lesson:

Joseph and the Trip to Bethlehem

Take Home Point:

God guides us when we follow him.

Drive Time Home

Tickler Question: How many times did an angel appear to Joseph in a dream to guide him? What happened each time? *(An angel appeared to Joseph three times. First, to tell him he should marry Mary and name her baby, Jesus. Second, an angel told him to take Jesus and Mary to Egypt for safety and later, to go back to Israel because Herod was dead.)*

God Time at Home

Select questions and adapt for your family.

FOR STARTERS: Choose a town about 70 or 80 miles away from where you live. This is the distance traveled by Joseph and Mary from Nazareth to Bethlehem. Ask: "How would you get to (name of town)? Can you point to the direction you would travel? Do you think you would get lost if you had to find it on your own?" Show a road atlas and the roads that lead to the town. Explain that the map shows you the way. Then ask: "How is this like how God leads us? Can you remember a time you didn't know what decision to make about something important? Did God help guide you?"

READ THE BIBLE: Matthew 1:18-25, 2:13-23; Luke 2:1-7

KEY VERSE: Isaiah 58:11a. *"The LORD will continually guide you..."*

TALK ABOUT IT: Mary was engaged to Joseph, yet she was going to have a baby by the Holy Spirit. What was Joseph going to do about the fact that she would have a baby? *(Matthew 1:19. He was going to break the marriage agreement with her secretly.)* Joseph changed his mind when God guided him to do something different. How did God give the message to Joseph? *(Matthew 1:20. An angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream.)* What did God tell Joseph to name the baby? *(Matthew 1:21. "Jesus," which means, "He saves.")* What did Joseph do with the directions he received? *(Matthew 1:24. He did what the angel of the Lord commanded him to do.)* Where did Joseph and Mary travel and why? *(Luke 2:4-5. They traveled from Nazareth to Bethlehem to register for a census.)* Some time after Jesus was born, an angel appeared to Joseph in a dream. What did the angel say this time? *(Matthew 2:13. Take Jesus and Mary to Egypt. King Herod wanted to kill Jesus.)* How did Joseph know when to leave Egypt and go back to Israel with Mary and Jesus? *(Matthew 2:19-23. An angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and told him it was safe to return because King Herod was dead.)*

Do you think it was hard for Joseph to do what the angel told him to do? Why? God has a plan for us, for our good, just like he had a plan for Joseph even though Joseph might not have understood what God was doing. Because Joseph allowed God to guide him, he did great things like providing for and protecting Mary and Jesus, the Son of God. How does God guide us today?

PRAYER POWER: Close in prayer thanking God for his guidance. Ask him for special help in areas where family members need guidance.

Real Life Stories of God Sightings, Lesson 30

Family Time Option

One day this week, try...

Let each family member think of someone who doesn't attend church regularly and whom they can invite to Christmas services. Pray for God to guide family members in whom to ask and how to invite them. Share those names with each other and see who follows through and invites their friend.