

# Lesson Fifteen Preparation: Luke 2:1-21

## The Incarnation

### Lesson Supplies

*Catholic Children's Bible* with table of contents page marked (page 3)

Journal for each family member and writing supplies

Videos cued up on your device

### Objectives

- The Incarnation refers to God become man, becoming en-fleshed.
- Jesus is fully divine and fully human.
- Jesus has a Divine Nature and a Human Nature united to the Divine Person God the Son

### Read

#### From the Bible

Luke 2:1-21

#### From the *Catechism of the Catholic Church*

Belief in the true Incarnation of the Son of God is the distinctive sign of Christian faith: "By this you know the Spirit of God: every spirit which confesses that Jesus Christ has come in the flesh is of God" (1 John 4:2). [...] The unique and altogether singular event of the Incarnation of the Son of God does not mean that Jesus Christ is part God and part man, nor does it imply that he is the result of a confused mixture of the divine and the human. He became truly man while remaining truly God. Jesus Christ is true God and true man. During the first centuries, the Church had to defend and clarify this truth of faith against the heresies that falsified it. (*Catechism of the Catholic Church*, paragraph 463-464)

#### From the *Compendium to the Catechism of the Catholic Church*

Read questions [85-98](#). This will take seven minutes.

### Watch

[God's Story: Jesus Is Born](#) (4:34)

[God in Human Form](#) (2:40)

[Who is Jesus](#) (3:32)

[The Nativity Fulton Sheen](#) (3:24)

[Incarnation](#) (3:00)

### Reflect

When I was a child, my grandmother greatly confused me on my birthday. We were celebrating my sixth birthday, but she insisted that I was older than that. I couldn't wrap my mind around why she thought that. It was my first lesson in fetal development.

When did the incarnation happen? When was the moment that God became a human being while remaining completely divine? By Christmas morning, Jesus had already been enfleshed in Mary's womb for nine months. God began his human life like we all do, as a zygote that soon developed into a blastocyst and then into an embryo and then into a fetus...

Jesus was fully and completely human while remaining fully and completely God. He developed like we all do. He experienced family difficulties like we all do. The Gospels show us Jesus getting tired, getting hungry, getting angry, and even crying at the death of a friend. They also show Jesus excited, joyful, forgiving, and in friendship. Jesus gets you because he lived a fully human life while remaining fully God. That's the Incarnation.

# Lesson Fifteen: Luke 2:1-21

## The Incarnation

### Lesson Summary

God created the world on purpose out of love.

God created you for friendship with him, which will make you truly happy.

God will always love you and gives you the freedom to love him.

### Pray

1. In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.
2. Who or what would you like to pray for today?
3. Our Father (*Catholic Children's Bible* page 1992)

### Read

#### Luke 2:1-21 – The Birth of Jesus

- Read the passage slowly and out loud at least three times, maybe taking turns.
- Pay attention for a word or phrase that sticks out to you.
- In your journal, write about that word or phrase. Use some of the [suggested journal prompts](#) if you need help.

### Reflect

Incarnation is a big word. It means to take something not physical and make it physical. When you build a fort with Legos, you take your idea of a fort and incarnate it—make it physical.

Jesus is God incarnate. He is the invisible God made visible. God is finally visible to all the world when he is born in Bethlehem.

You see, that's the way Jesus is. He could have become a man in some glorious way. But instead he chose to come into an ordinary family, in fact into a poor family. He grew up, just like you. He had a family and friends, just like you. He learned things, just like you. God loves you so much that he wanted to experience life just like you do. He also wanted to free you from your sins. That's the incarnation.

### Watch

[God's Story: Jesus Is Born](#) (4:34)

[God in Human Form](#) (2:40)

[Who is Jesus](#) (3:32)

[Incarnation](#) (3:00)

[The Nativity Fulton Sheen](#) (3:24)

### Discuss

- What is your favorite Christmas tradition that reminds you of Jesus?
- In what ways do you find it strange that Jesus was a normal person, a normal kid?
- In what ways is it comforting to know that Jesus lived a normal life?

### Salvation History

Sometime this week, read **Shepherds Announce the Good News of Jesus' Birth (Luke 2:8-11, 13)**, pages 1578-1579 in the *Catholic Children's Bible*.

This is Luke's version of the events surrounding Jesus' birth.

### Live

- Jesus was born into a poor family. This Christmas season, find a way as a family to make Christmas better for families in need. You could contribute to a new toy drive, donate to a food bank, or volunteer at a soup kitchen.
- Spend some extra time enjoying your family. Drive around and look at Christmas lights. Drink hot chocolate by the fire. Have a board game night. Find some way to have extra family time.

## Lesson Fifteen Supplemental Materials

### The Incarnation

#### Lesson Summary Statements

- Incarnation: The mystery of the Second Person of the Trinity taking on a fully human nature in addition to a fully Divine Nature. Stated another way, it is the mystery that Jesus is God made fully man while remaining fully God.
- “Person” refers to a being with the power to know and to will (to choose)
  - You are a human person.
  - Jesus is a divine Person, the Second Person of the Trinity. What Jesus does, God does.
- “Nature” refers to the essence or substance of a thing that determines what a thing can do.
  - You have a human nature and therefore can do human things.
  - Jesus has a divine nature and a human nature and therefore can do human things and Divine things.
- Jesus is a single Divine Person with two natures, a human and a divine nature.
  - Jesus, being fully human, has a body, soul, intellect (can know) and will (can choose and love). He is totally human like us, but without sin.
  - Jesus, being fully Divine, has all the perfections of God, Divine Intellect (can know) and Divine will (Can choose and Love)
- Mary is rightly called the Mother of God because she is the Mother of Jesus, who is the Second Person of the Trinity (God). Mary only supplied Jesus’ human nature.

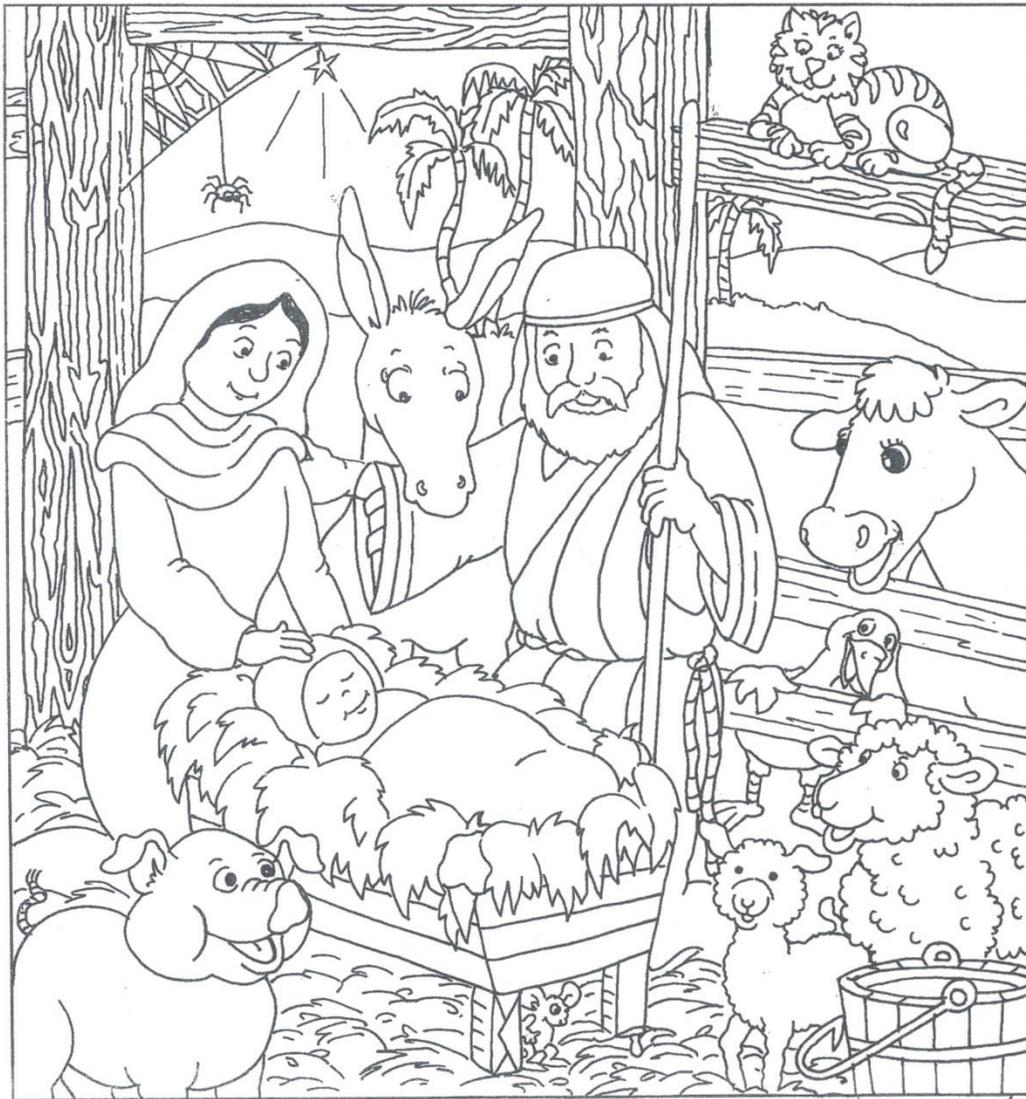
#### More Resources to Answer Your Questions

##### Videos

- [Is Mary the Mother of God? \(3:00\)](#)
- [Why did God become Man? \(3:12\)](#)
- [4 Reasons God became Man \(5:44\)](#)
- [Fr. Spitzer on who and what Jesus is \(8:28\)](#)
- [Bishop Barron who is Jesus \(6:35\)](#)
- [Bishop Sheen 2 natures in one God \(the pencil\) \(3:51\)](#)

##### Websites

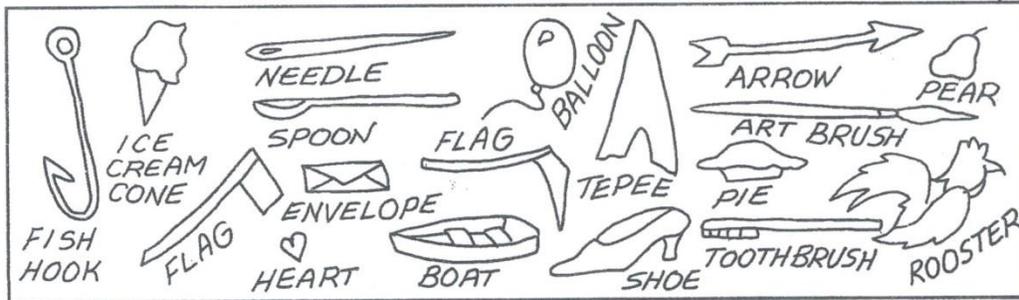
- [Catholic Answers](#)
- [Credible Catholic](#)
- [Formed.org](#)



What a cute baby!



Do you see the star?



Find the hidden pictures above in the puzzle.  
 Jesus was born in a stable. (Read the story in Luke 2)

