

# Christmas Stories with Jolly

by Jill Crowder

Jesus  
Is  
Born



For grades 3-5

## Jesus is Born

There once was a girl named Mary. Mary lived in Nazareth, and she was to be married to a man named Joseph. One day an angel came to Mary and told her she was going to have a very special baby. Joseph was not going to be this baby's father. God was this baby's father. This baby would be the Messiah. He would save the world and bring people closer to God. God also sent an angel to Joseph to tell him that getting married to Mary was also part of God's plan.

One day when it was getting very close to the time for Mary to have her very special baby, Caesar Augustus made a rule that everyone had to go to their hometown to pay taxes and be counted. Caesar Agustus was the ruler of Rome, so everyone had to do what he told them to do. Mary and Joseph had to go all the way to a town called Bethlehem. Bethlehem was very far from Nazareth. They had to travel by walking or riding donkeys, so it took them several days to get there.

While they were in Bethlehem, they looked for a place to stay but there was no room available at the inn. Mary and Joseph had no choice but to stay in a stable for the night. A stable is like a cave that is used as a barn to keep animals. That night, Mary gave birth to her very special baby. There was no hospital, no doctor, no baby bed, but that night her very special

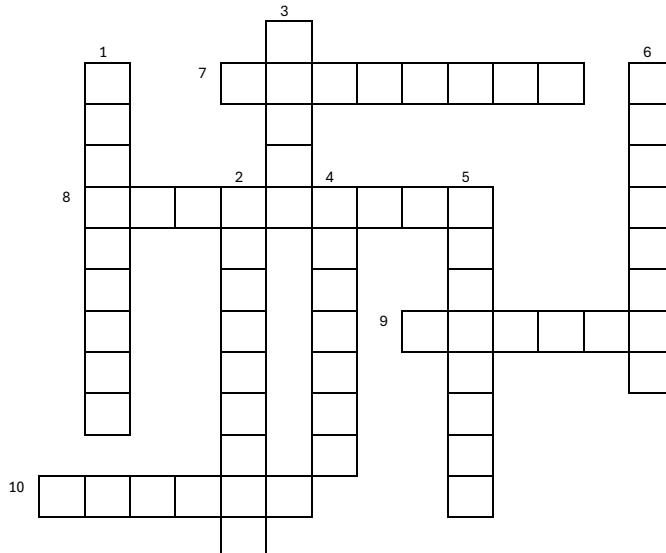
baby was born. They named him Jesus. Mary took baby Jesus and wrapped him up in clothes. Then she used the animal's feeding trough, called a manger, for his bed. This night was the very first Christmas, and this very special baby is why we still celebrate.

1. Where did Mary and Joseph live?
2. What was special about the baby in Mary's tummy?
3. Who told Mary she was going to have a baby?
4. Why did Mary and Joseph have to go to Bethlehem?
5. How did they get to Bethlehem?
6. Why didn't Mary and Joseph stay at the inn?
7. Where did they have to sleep?
8. What happened while they were staying in the stable?
9. What did Mary name her baby boy?
10. What did Mary use for a bed for baby Jesus?

## **Look it Up! (All answers are KJV specific.)**

Luke 2:1-7

- 1) And it came to pass in those days, that there went out a (9 ACROSS) from Caesar Augustus, that all the world should be taxed.
- 2) (And this taxing was first made when Cyrenius was (5 DOWN) of Syria.)
- 3) And all went to be (3 DOWN), everyone into his own city.
- 4) And Joseph also went up from Galilee, out of the city of (7 ACROSS), into Judaea, unto the city of David, which is called Bethlehem; (because he was of the house and (4 DOWN) of David.)
- 5) To be taxed with Mary his (6 DOWN) wife, being great with child.
- 6) And so it was, that, while they were there, the days were accomplished that she should be (2 DOWN).
- 7) And she brought forth her (1 DOWN) son, and wrapped him in (8 ACROSS) clothes, and laid him in a (10 ACROSS), because there was no room for them in the inn.



### In My World

The Old Testament is full of prophecies about the birth of the Messiah. It was stated that the Messiah would come from the lineage of David and be born in Bethlehem. It was no accident that Caesar Augustus decided to tax the people at the exact moment Jesus was to be born. Because of this taxing, Mary and Joseph were forced to travel many miles to Bethlehem putting them exactly where God wanted them to be for the birth of Jesus. I'm sure the travel was uncomfortable and inconvenient, but it was necessary for God's plan. I'm sure the stable was gross and smelly, but it was also necessary for God's plan. Whenever life has you inconvenienced or uncomfortable it may be so God can get you to the exact point in life where you need to be to fulfill the plan He has just for you. Try to seek His will and guidance through those uncomfortable situations.

### Reflection Questions

1. Have you been somewhere you didn't want to be and something wonderful happened that you would have missed had you not been there?
2. Have you ever felt there was no room for you? Did you use this time of loneliness or discouragement to grow closer to God?

### My Prayer for You

My prayer for you is that you understand that uncomfortable inconveniences are part of God's plan sometimes. I pray that you can see God's hand working in your life to get you where He wants you to be. I pray that you praise Him for providing the stables and the mangers even when you would rather have a room and a bed. God doesn't always give us what we want but He will always provide exactly what we need.

And she brought forth her firstborn son, and wrapped him in swaddling clothes, and laid him in a manger; because there was no room for them in the inn. Luke 2:7



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1. Nazareth
2. He was the Messiah
3. An angel
4. To pay taxes and be counted
5. Walking or riding a donkey
6. There was no room in the inn
7. In the stable
8. Mary had her baby
9. Jesus
10. A manger

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Down

1. Firstborn
2. Delivered
3. Taxed
4. Lineage
5. Governor
6. Espoused

Across

7. Nazareth
8. Swaddling
9. Decree
10. Manger