

Luke 2:1-20; Matthew 1:1-17

Luke 2:11

Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; he is Christ the Lord.

BIBLICAL PASSAGE

MEMORY VERSE

Luke 2:11

Do you recall the holiday hit, *A Charlie Brown Christmas* (UFS, 1965)? In it, Linus tells the story of Christ's birth from the Book of Luke, helping Charlie Brown refocus on the real message of Christmas. Charlie Brown is finally able to turn away from the commercialism and hype that Christmas has become.

Certainly, part of the Christmas season is gifts and giving; you spend your time choosing gifts for those you love. Read Luke 2:1-20. God the Father did the same thing. God sent His Son that He might redeem His beloved creation through the life and death of Jesus. Grace is defined as God's love and protection given

freely to people. Grace is a vital attribute of God's character. It is because of God's grace that He set forth to provide a way to reconcile all humankind to Him. Sending His Son Jesus was the absolute expression of His grace.

At Christmas, you celebrate the greatest gift ever given. What does it mean to live each day in celebration of this gift? Why do we reserve such celebration for one time of year? Teach your teenager, through your actions and words, to express worship and praise God for His amazing gift of Jesus Christ.

FAMILY DEVOTIONAL TIME

Connect . . .

Discuss: What are some of the television Christmas specials, characters, situations, and scenes that you remember the most? Why do you think you remember them?

Explore . . .

Have someone read Luke 2:10-14. **Read:** The gift of God in Jesus is unlike any gift we have ever received.

Read Luke 2:19. **Read:** Mary treasured all that she had seen and heard; She spent time reflecting on the things she saw God fulfill.

Transform . . .

Discuss: How can we as a family talk about what we see God doing in our lives so that we may, like the shepherds, glorify and praise God, and like Mary, treasure and ponder His presence with us?

Pray together that you will see the presence of God among you; give thanks for what you do see.