**At Home Weekly** is designed for you to use during the week with your son or daughter. You’ll find out what they learned today at church, and you can help them prepare for next week by exploring the theme (or Ponder Point) and spending time together in God’s Word.

What we Learned this week

Ponder point: god is love

**Mary and Joseph**

Matthew 1:18–25; Luke 2:1–5

Joseph was confused about what he should do once he knew Mary was expecting a child. God spoke to Joseph in a dream. After this, Joseph knew that everything they were experiencing was part of God’s big plan! God’s love gave Joseph and Mary the strength they needed throughout Mary’s pregnancy and as they traveled to Bethlehem.

Where We’re Headed Next time

Ponder point: jesus is the promise

**The Birth of Jesus**

Luke 2:8–20

God’s people, the Israelites, knew God would send a Messiah. They weren’t expecting God to send Him to earth as a humble servant, yet that was God’s plan. Instead of being born in the palace of a large city, Jesus was born in a stable in the small town of Bethlehem.

Did you know?

• Jesus’ birth marked the beginning of the fulfillment of God’s promises to His people—to rescue and redeem them back to Himself.

• The Israelite people expected God to send the Redeemer in the form of a king who would come with a great show of power.

• Jesus was born humbly, in a stable in the seemingly insignificant, small town of Bethlehem.

Connect as a family

Go outside at night to read this part of The Big God Story. If it is too cold, gather inside near a window and look at the stars. Tell your children this next part happened at night, when the shepherds were watching their sheep in the fields. Then, read **Luke 2:8–20**. Ask your children if they remember whom the angels said this “good news of great joy” was for. They said it was for all the people.

After reading the Scripture passage, discuss these questions together:

• What do you think Mary and Joseph thought when the shepherds came to visit Jesus?

• What do you think the wise men felt about God when they met Jesus?

• What is the good news? Explain to your children that the good news is that God kept His promise to send the Redeemer, Jesus!

Extend these questions into the rest of the week. Look for opportunities to bring conversations about how Jesus Is the Promise into your everyday life as a family.

Remember verse

The Remember Verse focuses on a character trait of God that’s highlighted in next week’s portion of The Big God Story.

Lord, you are my God; I will exalt you and praise your name, for in perfect faithfulness you have done wonderful things, things planned long ago.

Isaiah 25:1

BLESSING

Blessings are often used in the Bible. A blessing can be a prayer of commission, a portion of Scripture, or words to encourage and guide.

A blessing to pray over your child:

(Child’s name)**,** **may you always remember that Jesus is The Promise and that He has made the way for you to be with Him forever and ever.**

For more information about blessing your child, go to [truministry.com](http://www.truministry.com) to the Parenting tab. And for more creative ideas on spiritually leading your family, visit [HomeFrontMag.com](http://www.HomeFrontMag.com).