



Experiencing the Genuine Jesus

THEME:

UNEXPECTED HAPPENINGS

Verse:

"...And she will have a son, and you are to name him Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins."

(Matthew 1:21)



Materials: White piece of paper prepared with the name Jesus written in white crayon, watercolor paint, and paint brush.

Message:

I am so excited that Christmas is just around the corner, and we will be celebrating the birth of Jesus. Christmas often has a few surprises too, like unexpected company, gifts, or events/happenings. Did you know that Joseph was surprised when he found out that Mary was going to have a baby, the baby Jesus?



ASK THE CHILDREN: Have you ever been surprised by something you did not expect to happen? How did you act when you were surprised?

At first, we might sometimes think that we do not want a surprise but then later change our minds. It's kind of like when you get a gift that you don't think you like and then you end up LOVING it! That is what happened with Joseph.

I brought a piece of paper to share with you today. What do you notice?

Watch this – (To reveal the messages use the watercolor paints, and paint over the white paper where the message is written. The message should appear once the paint is applied to the paper).



ASK: Were you surprised to see Jesus?

Joseph was surprised to learn that Jesus was going to be born but then he had a dream and the angel of the Lord said,

"...And she will have a son, and you are to name him Jesus,^[1] for he will save his people from their sins." (Matthew 1:21)

Then Joseph was very happy because he learned that Jesus was a gift from God to all of us and he wanted the surprise.

This Christmas season I want you to think about how you can respond to unexpected happenings and try to find something good in each surprise.

