

## Three easy steps for an at-home experience!



### BIG IDEA: JESUS IS THE GOOD NEWS

God was preparing the hearts of his people for centuries! He was preparing them to receive the Good News! Isaiah, a prophet of God, told about the coming Messiah and the hope he would bring. Hundreds of years later, an angel appeared to Mary, preparing her heart for the miracle to come! An angel also prepared Joseph's heart, helping him to face a difficult situation. They were all ready and waiting for the coming Messiah! How about our hearts? In this time of lights and gifts and parties, are our hearts ready for the Messiah? Are we focusing on the true meaning of Christmas? Today we will learn about the Good News, and work to prepare our hearts for Christmas.



#### STEP ONE: READ THE BIBLE STORY

Luke 1:26-28 and Matthew 1:18-25 from the NIV  
Pages 252-255 in the [Read with Me Bible](#)



#### STEP TWO: WATCH THE TEACHING VIDEO

Available at [youtube.com/eastviewkids](https://youtube.com/eastviewkids)  
A Very Merry Christmas - Week 1



#### STEP THREE: CHOOSE AN ACTIVITY

**FOR ALL KIDS:** Act It Out!

**Materials:** None, but you could find things around the house to help the story—blankets, scarves, pillow

Kids love to act things out! Assign roles to members of your family. If you have more people than roles, you can act it out more than once and have the leftover people be the audience!

Here are the roles: Angel, Mary, Joseph

**FOR OLDER KIDS:** Scripture Scavenger Hunt

**Materials:** Bible, cards with Bible verse references

**Preparation:** Before you begin, write the following Bible verse references on separate slips of paper:

- Psalm 139:23-24
- Psalm 51:10
- Psalm 19:14
- Ezekiel 11:19
- 1 Chronicles 29:17-18

Hide each card in a separate room of your house. (Just be sure to remember where you hid them!)

When you begin the activity, ask your family members to list some things you do around the house to get ready for the holidays. Then explain that you are all going on a hunt to find some Bible verses. These verses will tell us what we need to do to get our hearts ready!

Reveal the room where the hunt should begin and bring your Bible along with you. When you find the first card, look up and read that verse. Continue until you have found all the verses!