

Luke 1.67-79

Not just a baby!



I hope you had a very
Happy Christmas!

You'd have been getting so excited, waiting and waiting and waiting for the big day to arrive.

Maybe you were wondering, too, all the time what presents you might be given.

Anyway, I hope you were given some lovely gifts!



I think everyone who saw it really loved the video which all the children in the church here put together (with a bit of help from Roarlight – and Sam and Katie!).

It was called **Not just a baby** and it helped remind us all that the best gift of all is ... Jesus Himself!

That's why we make such a fuss over Christmas.

Because although the person who came into the world all those years ago at Bethlehem was a baby ...

He was not *just* a baby!

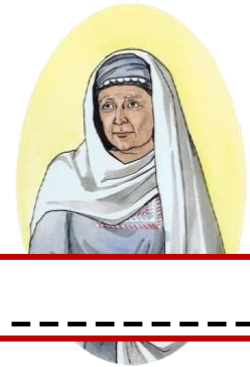
Today's passage

Today's passage tells the story of what took place six months before Jesus was born.

Remember the 'odd old couple'?

Can you remember their names?

And the name of the baby who was born to them?



_____ and _____



When the baby was born and his Dad gave him the name which the angel had told him to give the baby – to the surprise of everyone, his Dad was at last able to speak again!

Here's the first part of what he said.

(Maybe he even sang it, he was so thrilled at what was happening!)

⁶⁸ 'Praise be to the Lord, the God of Israel, because he has come to his people and redeemed them. ⁶⁹ He has raised up a horn of salvation for us in the house of his servant David ⁷⁰ (as he said through his holy prophets of long ago), ⁷¹ salvation from our enemies and from the hand of all who hate us – ⁷² to show mercy to our ancestors and to remember his holy covenant, ⁷³ the oath he swore to our father Abraham: ⁷⁴ to rescue us from the hand of our enemies, and to enable us to serve him without fear ⁷⁵ in holiness and righteousness before him all our days.

Read

Luke 1.68-75

He realised what was going on!

God was bringing something very special and important to His people – can you see what that something was?

(It's one word, which appears twice in the passage: unjumble the letters below to get the answer)

SNAIL V OAT

You can tell he was clued in!

Remember what the angel said to the shepherds – it was the same thing!

Read

Luke 2.11

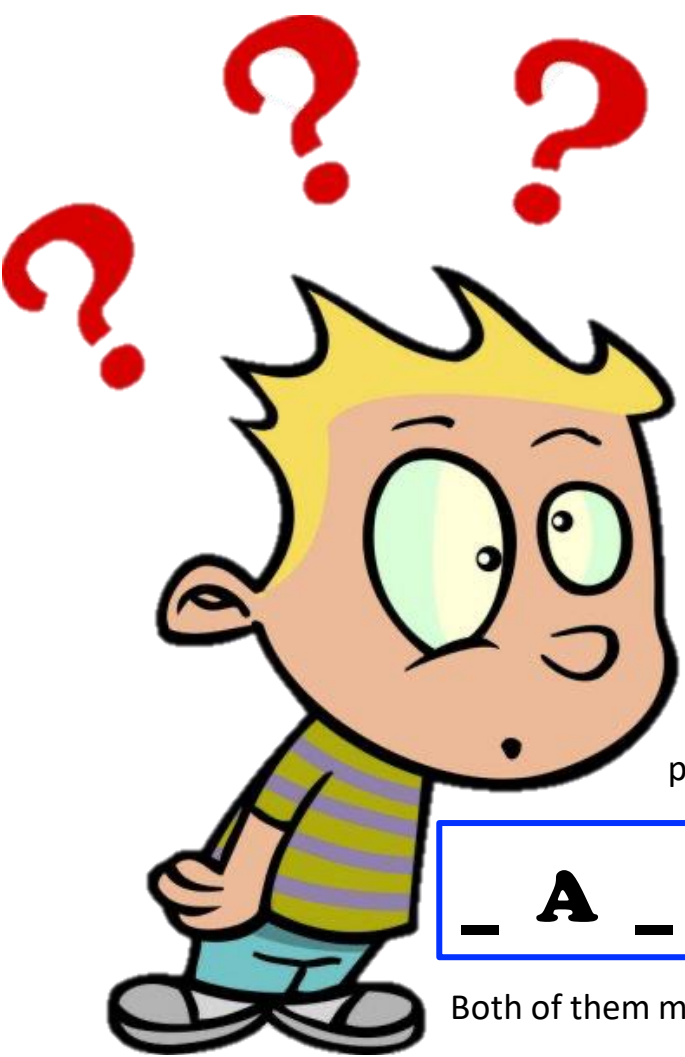


Fill in the missing word in what the angel told the shepherds

It's the same message!

... and a wonderful message!

**Today
in the town of David
a _____
has been born
to you!**



God had been promising His people for a long, long time that He would do this.

Look back at the passage on the previous page and see if you can spot where this is mentioned.

The word 'promise' isn't used: but two other words are used to describe the promise of God –

— A — —

one long
one short

Both of them mean that **God had made a promise.**

**C
I
V
I
L
I
Z
I
N
I
C**

Luke 1.74-75

...⁷⁴ to rescue us from the hand of our enemies,

and

to enable us to serve him

without fear⁷⁵ in holiness and righteousness before him all our days.



OK. Let's take a closer look at what the Lord had promised His people.

Read vv.74 and 75 of Luke 1 again, and you'll see the answer to the question – why had God come?

(1) to **r** _____ **us**

and

(2) to **e** _____ **us to**
s _____ **Him**

God has fulfilled His promise!

In Jesus God has come to help us: no matter what the problem is He can fix it!

He sets us free from everything which holds us back from living life His way.

And

He gives us the power of His Spirit, who helps us live our lives in His service.

We get to share in what God is doing!

LET ALL THE  KNOW THAT

JESUS SAVES

A prayer

Think about what you've been learning today.

Now try praying this prayer (or making up your own prayer!)

Thank You, Jesus, for Christmas time!

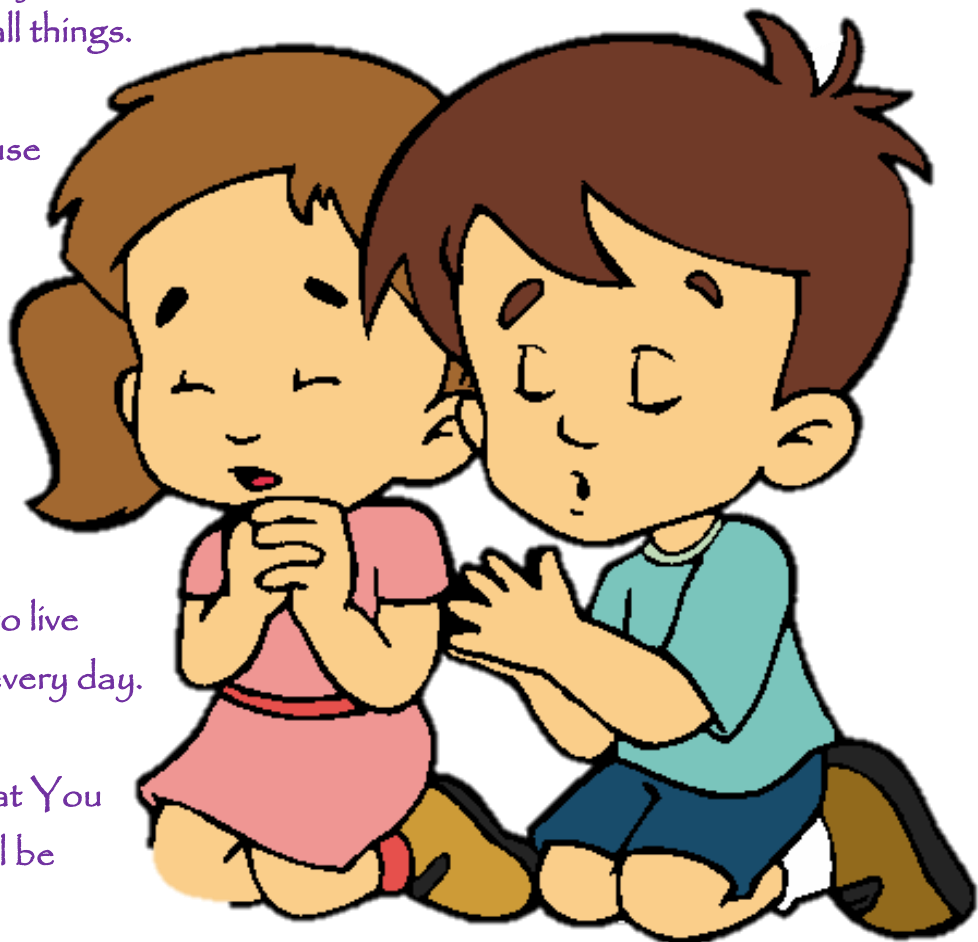
Thank You that You came into the world to help us. It's amazing to think that, although You're God, You know what it's like to be a little baby.

I'm glad that You're 'not just a baby'! I'm glad that You're Almighty God and You can do all things.

Thank You that because of all that You've done I can be part of God's family too.

I'm sorry for all the wrong things in my life – please help me to live the way You mean me to live and to serve You well every day.

Thank You, Jesus, that You love me so much and will be there for me always.



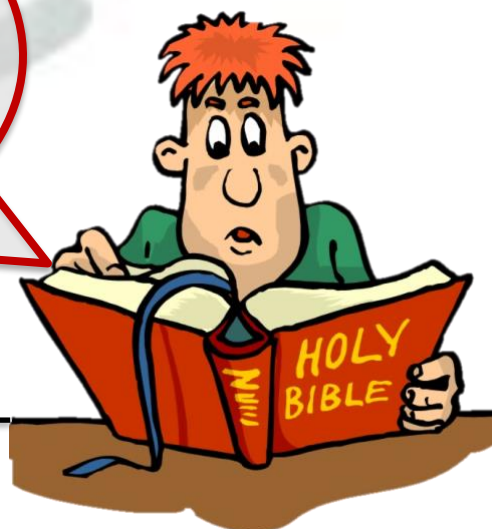
Today's verse for you to try and remember!

LET ALL THE  KNOW THAT

JESUS
SAVES

**“And you, my child,
will be called a prophet of the Most
High: for you will go on before the Lord
to prepare the way for him, to give
his people the knowledge
of salvation ..**

Luke 1.76-77



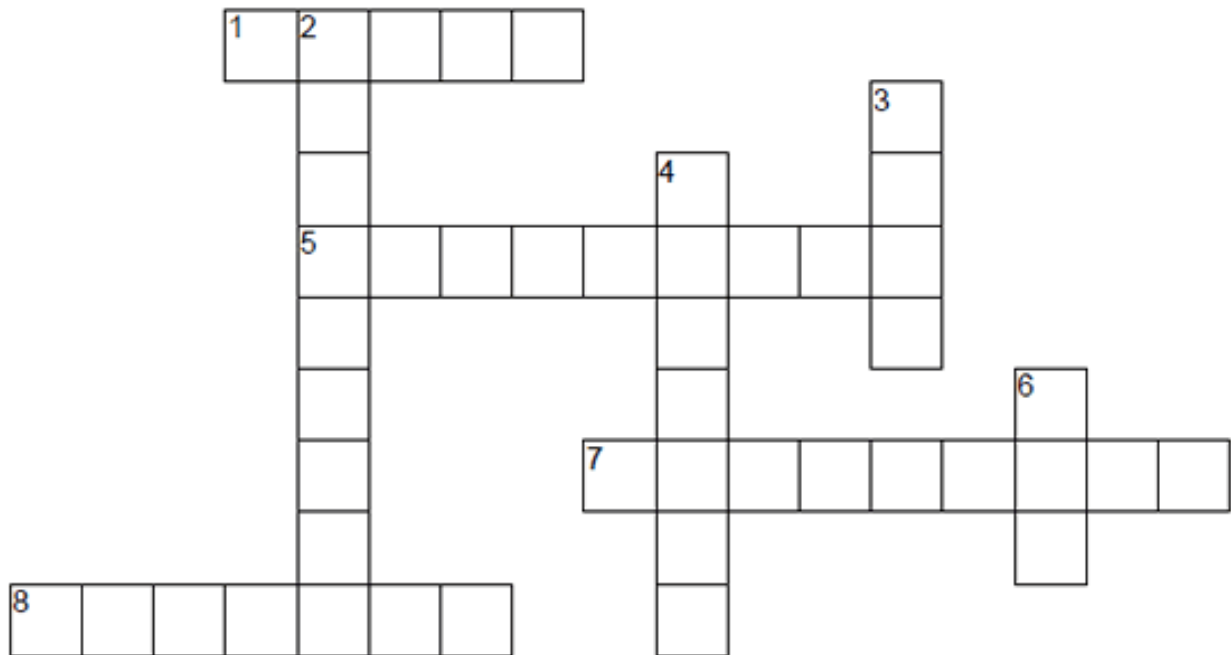
A 'CROSSWORD'

See if you can do this 'crossword' puzzle

"His Name Is John"

"And you, my little son, will be called the prophet of the Most High because you will prepare the way for the Lord." Luke 1:76 (NIV)

Puzzle is based on Luke 1:67-80



ACROSS

1. Kind and gentle treatment of another person
5. The father of John the Baptist
7. To be forgiven of our sin
8. One who speaks for God

DOWN

2. The mother of John the Baptist
3. The one who prepared the way for Jesus
4. To make ready
6. To disobey God's law

ZACHARIAS
ELIZABETH

MERCY
SIN

SALVATION
JOHN

PREPARE
PROPHET

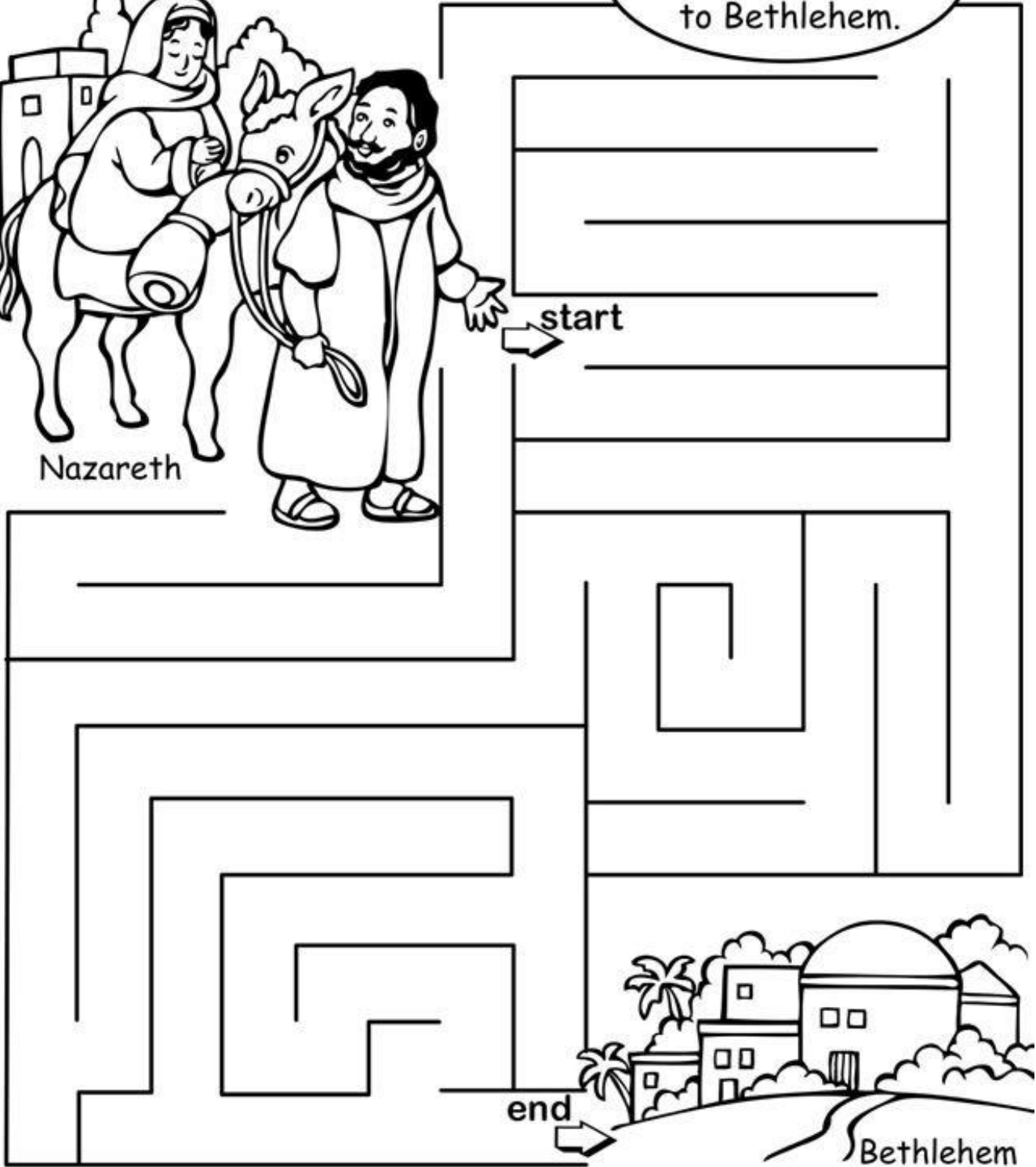
Amazing mazes!

A LONG JOURNEY

Help Mary and Joseph find the way to Bethlehem.



Nazareth



end

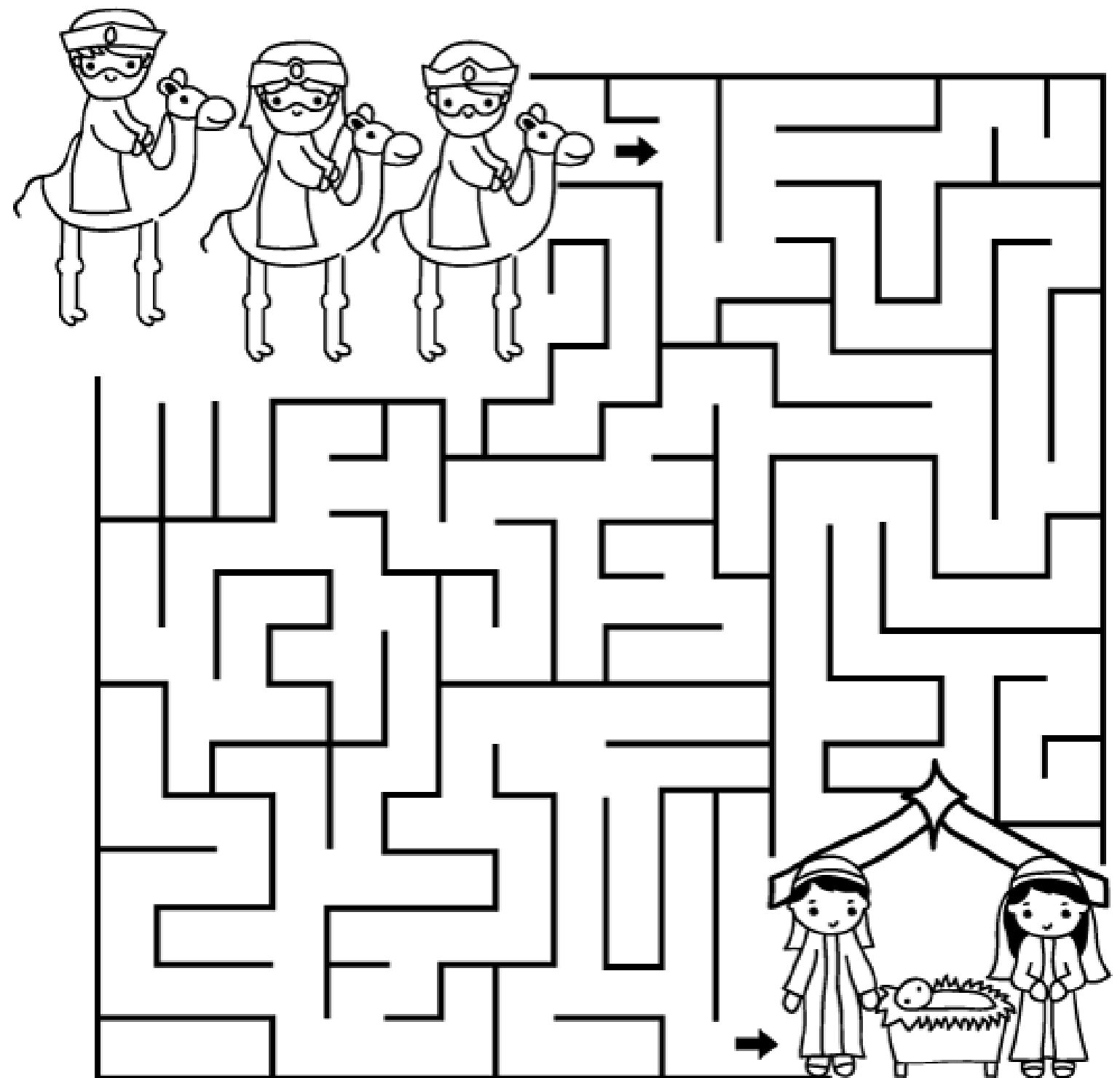
Bethlehem

Joseph and Mary went on a long journey from the town of Nazareth to the town of Bethlehem.

(Luke 2:1-5)

Nativity Maze

Help the Three Wise Men find the manger.



For you to COLOUR IN

