

That's why King Jesus was born—to die in our place and to take the punishment we deserve—so that our sins can be forgiven and we can be friends with God again. You can see why the angel said this was good news! (v10)

### The King who lives

King Jesus didn't stay dead. Three days later, God brought Jesus back to life again! Jesus is still alive today, ruling as King.

### The best present

When someone gives you a present you have to accept it. You don't leave it wrapped up under the Christmas tree! God has given us the best present ever—his own Son Jesus as our saving King. But we have to accept it. Here's one way of accepting God's present:

**Sorry:** Admit that you do, say and think wrong things. Tell God you are sorry. Ask him to forgive you, and to help you to change.

**Thank you:** Thank God for the best present ever. Thank him for sending his

Son Jesus to take the punishment for your sin, so that you can be forgiven. Thank God for bringing Jesus back to life again as King of our world.

**Please:** Ask God to help you to live as his friend from now on, with him in charge. It won't be easy—there will be some things you have to stop doing. Ask God to help you do this.

If you have thought about these things, and you're ready to accept God's present to you, the prayer on the next page will help you.

*Dear God, I have done and said and thought things that are wrong. I am really sorry. Please forgive me. Thank you for sending Jesus to die for me, as the best present ever. From now on, please help me to live as one of your friends, with you in charge. Amen.*

### What now?

Jesus welcomes everyone who comes to him. If you have put your trust in him, he has saved you from your sins and forgiven you.

When you are forgiven by God, you become his friend for ever. He loves you and will always be with you. You can see why the angel said this is 'good news' that brings 'great joy'!

### What next?

The angel told his good news to the shepherds. Later, when the shepherds saw the baby Jesus, they told everyone

what the angel had said. Now you have some good news to tell too!

God will help you to live as one of his friends. Meeting with some of God's other friends (called Christians) will help you too. You can learn more about Jesus together. See if you can join a group at a local church, or ask the person who gave you this leaflet. Tell them the good news that you have become one of God's friends too.

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All Bible references taken from the Good News Bible



Christmas is a time for presents. It's great fun giving and getting gifts. But what's the best present of all?

Imagine giving any present you want to someone special—maybe your Mum, or Dad, or best friend...

What would you give them? \_\_\_\_\_

It's great giving a special present to someone you love. That's what God did on the very first Christmas. He gave us the best present ever.

Crack the code to see some clues about the present God gave us.

= A = C = D = E = G = H = I = J

= N = O = R = S = T = U = V = W

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Look out for these words as you read the rest of this leaflet.

\_\_\_\_\_

## The first Christmas

On the first Christmas night, an angel gave an exciting message to some very surprised shepherds. Luke, one of the writers of the Bible, tells us about it...

**Luke chapter 2 verses 8–12**

*<sup>8</sup>There were some shepherds in that part of the country who were spending the night in the fields, taking care of their flocks. <sup>9</sup>An angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone over them. They were terribly afraid, <sup>10</sup>but the angel said to them, "Don't be afraid! I am here with good news for you, which will bring great joy to all the people. <sup>11</sup>This very day in David's town your Saviour was born—Christ the Lord! <sup>12</sup>And this is what will prove it to you: you will find a baby wrapped in strips of cloth and lying in a manger."*



## A special baby

Who did the angel say had been born? (v11)

Your S \_\_\_\_\_

Hmm... A saviour (or rescuer) is hugely important—but only if you need to be saved! Crack the code to see what we **all** need to be saved from.

\_\_\_\_\_

This means the sentence that starts with a tiny 11

Sin is doing what **we** want instead of what **God** wants. Sin gets in the way between us and God. It stops us from being his friends. You can see why we need to be saved!

## A special name

The angel gave this Saviour another name. What was it? (v11)

C \_\_\_\_\_ the Lord

'Christ' isn't a name like Fred or Bill. It's a title, and it means 'God's chosen King'. So this new baby wasn't just a Saviour—he was also a King!

## The King who saves

The angel didn't tell the shepherds the name of this saving King—but you probably know it already... What was his name? \_\_\_\_\_



When the shepherds went to see Jesus, he was just a tiny baby. He didn't look much like a king! The grown up Jesus didn't look kingly either. When he was about 33 years old, Jesus was killed. He was nailed to a cross and left to die. He looked like a dying criminal, not a king.

But this horrible death is how King Jesus **saved** his people! As he died, all the sins of the world (all the wrongs people do) were put onto Jesus. **He** was taking the punishment for **our** sins.