

## NOW - meet the King

The promises God made to Abraham and David are still true. Jesus came as the rescuing King, and is still King today. We can ask Jesus to *rescue* us from our sins – and to be King of our lives. Here's one way you can do that...

**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 keeping his promises to send Jesus as our rescuing King. Thank him for sending 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 for ever.

**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 to live his way.

If you have thought about these things, and you're ready to ask Jesus to be your rescuing King, this prayer 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 my rescuing King. 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. This is God's brilliant Christmas present to us. You can see why the angels wanted to tell the shepherds all about it!

## What next?

God will help you to live as one of his friends. Reading his book, the Bible, will help you to get to know him better, so try to read a little bit each day.

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 that you have become one of God's friends too.

**Did you know?**  
The Bible, or books from it, has been translated into over 2500 languages – that's far more than any other book in the world!

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# Countdown to Christmas

4  
3  
2  
1  
**4000 years ago**

a Rescuer was promised,

**3000 years ago**

a King was promised,

**2000 years ago**

the promises came true.

**And they're still true today...**





It's exciting getting ready for Christmas – wrapping gifts, decorating the tree and looking forward to parties and presents. Did you know that God spent a huge, long time preparing for the very first Christmas? Read on to find out what he did.

## 4000 years ago – a BIG promise

Abraham was an ordinary man – but he trusted God, and obeyed him too. God made an amazing promise to Abraham. Take the first letter of each picture to see what it was.



I will give you a huge \_\_\_\_\_ – so big, no one can count them.



Bring something good for everyone.

Someone from your family will \_\_\_\_\_ the whole world.

Abraham didn't know it yet, but that special person from his family was going to be

That's how he would bless the whole world.



the greatest \_\_\_\_\_ ever!

Did you know?  
"Abraham" means  
"father of many".

## 3000 years ago – a promised King

David was a shepherd – but God chose him to be the king of Abraham's family, the Israelites. He was the best king they ever had. God made this fantastic promise to David:



Someone from your family will be King \_\_\_\_\_

That special person from David's family was going to be



the greatest \_\_\_\_\_ ever!

Crazy groups  
a choir of angels  
a cloud of bats  
a rabble of butterflies  
a rhumba of rattlesnakes  
a skulk of foxes  
a mischief of mice

## 2000 years ago – surprising news

A choir of angels turned up with a message for some very frightened shepherds. Luke, one of the writers of the Bible, tells us what their news was.



"This very day in David's town your \_\_\_\_\_ was born –

God's chosen King



Rescuer

the Lord!" (Luke 2 v 11)

The baby the angels sang about was Jesus – he'd just been born in Bethlehem. He was the Rescuer God promised to Abraham, the King promised to David.

But why did God send a rescuing King? What do we need to be rescued from?



We **all** need to be saved from \_\_\_\_\_

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

At the very first Easter, when Jesus was about 33 years old, he was killed. He was nailed to a cross and left to die. 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.

That's why Jesus was born – to die in our place and take the punishment we deserve – so that our sins can be forgiven and we can be friends with God again. That's great news!

Jesus died as our Rescuer – to save us from our sins. But Jesus didn't stay dead!



Three days later, God brought him back to \_\_\_\_\_

Jesus is still alive today, ruling as King for ever, just as God promised.

Famous rescues  
In 2010 a group of  
33 Chilean miners  
were trapped 700m  
underground. It took  
69 days to rescue  
them, but they all  
came out alive!

