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Age 9
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It was a dark and stormy night – a long time ago – in Bethlehem. In a large field, shepherds were watching their sheep. Suddenly, one of them yelled and pointed. They looked, and what they saw was the most extraordinary thing they had ever, and *would* ever, see on earth! The storm had cleared and the sky lit up so it was brighter than the sun. There was an *angel* right before them; they rubbed their eyes. The angel seemed to be about fifty feet off the ground! He said in an amazingly kind and gentle voice, for he knew that the shepherds were terrified, "Jesus, your Savior, has been born! You will find Him in a stable, wrapped in cloth. He will save everyone from their sin."

Then almost as if out of nowhere, more angels came and were singing, "Glory to God in the Highest!"

Then, they vanished! The shepherds started whispering and the leader stood up, and said they must go see this miraculous thing the angel had told them about. They all ran to see this King – in a stable of all places! They came to the inn, and went to the stable. They all stood in awe at the scene – Mary leaning over the baby, and Joseph smiling at her. Jesus, Christ the Lord, had finally been born! The shepherds crowded around the manger happily.

No one knew that this little baby would grow up to be a man, die willingly, and rise from the dead! No one knew except God, what this little child would grow up to be and do. No one knew that this little baby would save us from all of our sins. If we only choose to believe.