

Story outline for Christmas cards



God is love

God is both the first and the last

God is both one and three

God is love



Once a shining angel messenger came to Mary with the news that she was to become the Mother of God!



Far away in another country, a star messenger appeared in the sky to three 'kings'. They knew that something special was happening and decided to set out on a long journey, following the star.



The same shining angel messenger came to Mary's fiancé Joseph. The angel said that he should not be afraid to take Mary as his wife. The child inside her was from the Holy Spirit.



Joseph and Mary travelled south to Bethlehem, which was Joseph's family town.



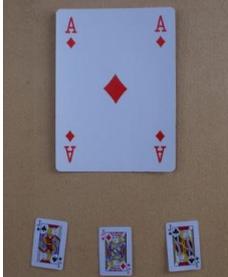
All this time the messenger star was leading the three 'kings' on a long, long journey to find the 'king of kings'.



God the 'Most High' became the 'Most Low'. God wrapped himself up small and became a baby on earth. It was the only way to rescue a broken world and show how much God loved everyone.



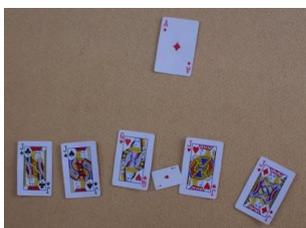
Bethlehem was crowded. The only place Mary and Joseph could stay was in a stable. It was here that Mary gave birth to a baby. They called him Jesus.



On the hillsides near Bethlehem, the shining angel messenger appeared to some shepherds (Jake, Jacob and Jack) who were looking after their sheep. The angel told them that a baby had been born in Bethlehem.



And then a great host of angels appeared in the sky, praising God and saying 'peace on earth'.



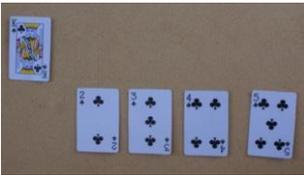
The shepherds left their flocks and found the baby with Mary and Joseph, just as the angels had told them.



Sometime much later, the three 'kings' following the star arrived in Jerusalem and went to meet King Herod. They wanted to know where a new king might be born.



The star led the three 'kings' to Bethlehem where they worshipped the child Jesus.

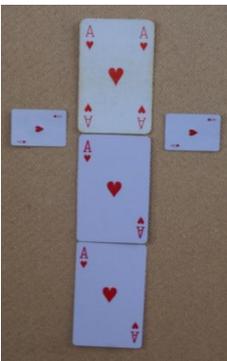


When the three 'kings' did not return, King Herod sent his soldiers to go and look for this new king to kill him.



But the angel messenger warned Mary and Joseph and they escaped, taking their child with them to Egypt.

And the child grew and became a man. The man Jesus told everyone about the Kingdom of God and showed God's love to all.



Finally, Jesus knew there was only one way to mend what was broken and bring everyone back home to God. He showed how much God loved everyone by dying on a cross.



Only this way can God become 'king of our hearts' and the Kingdom of God can come on earth!



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BRF, 15 The Chambers, Vineyard, Abingdon, Oxon OX14 3FE

Tel: 01865 319700; Fax: 01865 319701; E-mail: enquiries@brf.org.uk

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