



The Life Of Jesus

Jesus is the Son of God. He came to earth for one purpose: to give us a new opportunity to find our way to God. Even though he was the Son of God, he lived a life like most men and women. He ate food and drank water and wine. He walked and talked and smiled and laughed; Jesus even made jokes.

It began when God sent an angel to Mary. The angel told Mary that she would give birth to a son who was the savior of mankind. This meant that Mary's son was going to save all men and women and boys and girls. But save them from what? From sin, from giving in to temptation. And that's what happened. Mary gave birth to a son whose birthday we celebrate on Christmas just as the shepherds and the three wise kings celebrated it when it first happened. And the child Jesus grew up to be a boy of about seven or eight years old. He did the things most boys did. He ran around and played, and

listened to what his mother told him. But then he grew up to be a 12-year-old boy and went to the temple where he impressed all the wise and learned men with his wisdom. Later when he was a man, he walked around the countryside telling people that he was the Son of God. Some people thought he was crazy and some people thought that he was a liar. But anyone who said what he said and then did what he did, wouldn't lie about such an important thing. What did he say? What did he do? What he said was simple: We must love one another. What does that word "love" mean? Does it mean that we must like one another? No. How can you love something you don't like? What Jesus meant is that we mustn't wish evil upon anyone or be happy when something bad happens to someone we don't like. We have to forgive and forget the bad things that people do to us. Those are some of the things Jesus said. Another thing Jesus told us was to follow him. If we follow him, he will lead us to his father's mansion. Who is the father of Jesus? God is. What's God's mansion? Heaven. Moses led God's people to the Promised Land, and Jesus is leading us to the Promised Home.

What are some of the things Jesus did? Well, he performed miracles. He cured sick people, and gave eyesight to blind men. He made very diseased men — called lepers — lose their disease and become whole and clean again. He once made a storm at sea quiet down because the storm was frightening his friends. He also walked on water. That's right. Jesus walked upon the water without sinking. He even showed his friend Peter how to walk on water and Peter did until Peter lost faith for a moment. For a moment, Peter thought it wouldn't work and he got nervous and doubted Jesus' ability. He almost sank because of that doubt.

Lots of people started following Jesus. The leaders didn't like it so they arranged for Jesus to be killed. He died by being hung on a cross. Does anyone know what happened after Jesus died? He came back to his friends to remind them that he had a place for them in his father's house. All they had to do was follow the wonderful rules he had told them about when he was alive. They and we would get to the Promised Land just as the Jews got to the Promised Land by following Moses. Jesus would even forgive us our mistakes in the same way Moses did, for Moses kept reminding the Jews to be good.

Follow Jesus to His Father's House

