

4.0 THE EARLY LIFE OF JESUS CHRIST

Prophet Isaiah called Jesus unique names. Use the mnemonic, '*Winnie **M**akes **E**ggs **P**erfectly,*' to memorise **W**onderful Counsellor, **M**ighty God, **E**ternal Father and **P**rince of Peace.

Below is a summary of the events that took place during the annunciation and the birth of Jesus Christ.

Angel Gabriel was sent to Mary in Nazareth, a virgin engaged to Joseph of the house of David. Gabriel greeted Mary and told her she would conceive a son and name him Jesus. He said the child would be great, called Son of the Most High and he would be given the throne of David with an everlasting kingdom. Mary asked how it would happen since she was a virgin. The angel explained that the Holy Spirit would come upon her. The angel also told her that Elizabeth was six months pregnant as a sign that nothing was impossible with God. Mary accepted by saying she was the handmaid of the Lord.

Joseph and Mary travelled to Bethlehem for a census because of Caesar Augustus' decree. While in Bethlehem, Mary gave birth to Jesus and laid him in a manger because there was no room in the inn. An angel appeared to shepherds at night and announced the birth of Christ in Bethlehem. A multitude of angels appeared and praised God, saying glory to God in the highest and peace on earth. The shepherds went to Bethlehem, found Mary, Joseph and the baby. They shared what the angel had told them. The baby was named Jesus according to the angel's instruction before his conception.