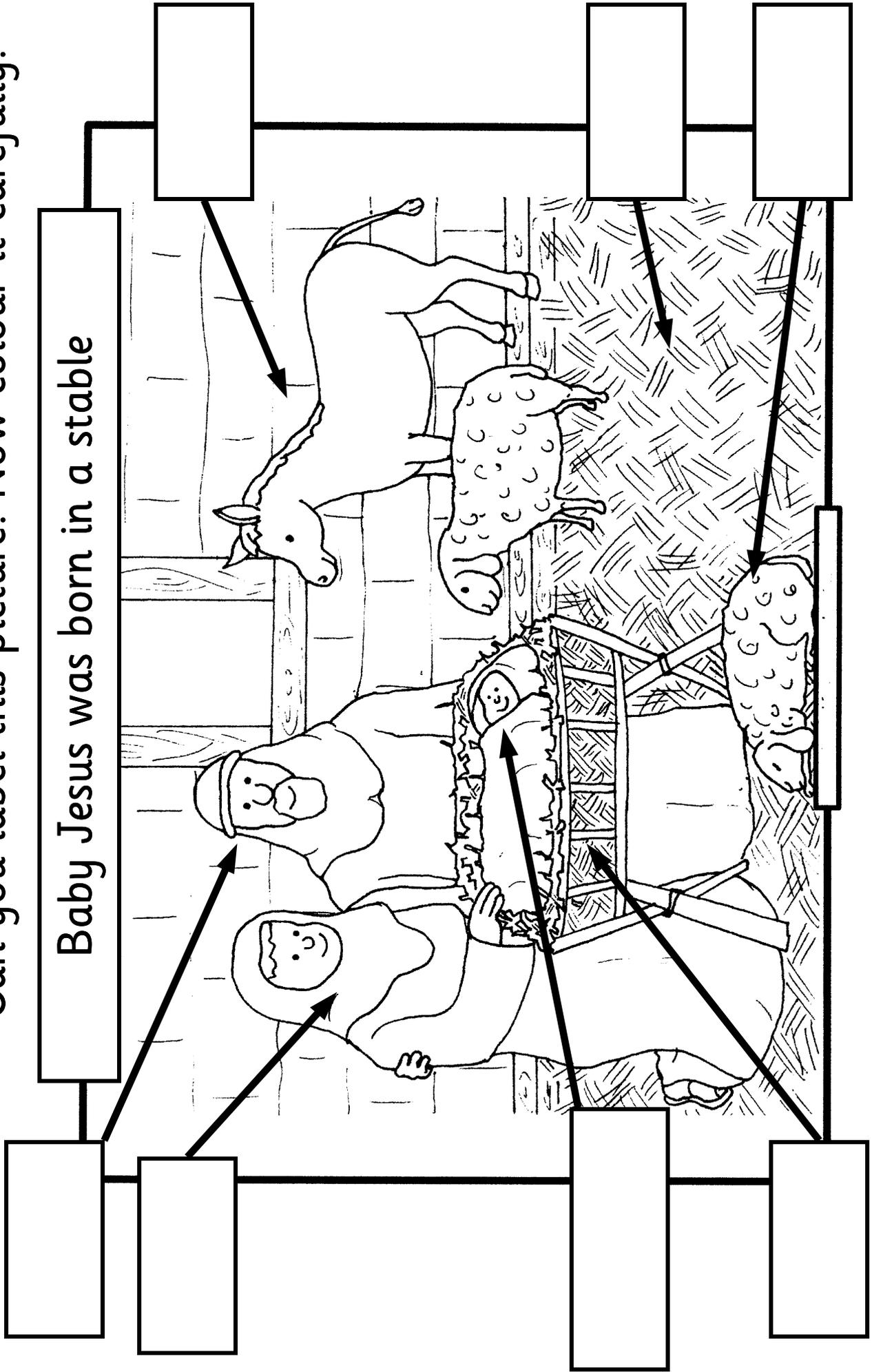


Can you label this picture. Now colour it carefully.



An angel told Mary she would have a special baby.

Mary and Joseph had to travel all the way to Bethlehem.

All the inns were full. There was nowhere to stay.

That night baby Jesus was born in the stable.

The shepherds saw angels on the hillside.

Kings took the baby gifts of Gold, Frankincense and Myrrh.

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## Mary and the Angel

A long time ago, in the town of Nazareth, there lived a young woman named Mary. She was engaged to be married to Joseph, a carpenter. One day an angel appeared before her and told her she had been chosen to have a special baby. The baby would be God's son and she must call him Jesus.



## Journey to Bethlehem

Soon after the angel's visit, Mary and Joseph were married. Then they were told they had to go on a long journey to Bethlehem, which was where Joseph came from. This was because they had to pay a special tax. Mary had to ride on a donkey for many days over the hills of Galilee.



## No Room at the Inn

At last Mary and Joseph arrived in Bethlehem. It was crowded with other people who needed to pay their taxes. Mary was very tired and needed a place to stay. At each inn, the story was the same. There was no room for them. Eventually, one kind innkeeper said he had a stable where he kept his animals. They were welcome to stay there.



## Jesus is Born

And so it was that a few hours later, Mary gave birth to her son in that stable. She wrapped Jesus in strips of cloth and laid Him in a manger full of hay.



## The Shepherds hear the News

At the same time, on a hillside overlooking Bethlehem, some shepherds were watching over their sheep. A bright light appeared in the sky. They were very afraid. It was an angel sent by God. The angel told them not to be afraid because he had some good news. He said the Son of God had been born and they would find Him in Bethlehem.



## The Shepherds give Gifts

The shepherds wanted to go and see the baby. When they arrived at the stable they were filled with joy at seeing Jesus lying in the manger. They knelt down and worshipped Him. They told Mary and Joseph how the angel had appeared in the sky and told them that Jesus was to be the Saviour of the world.



## A New Star Appears

Far away in the East, three wise men named Casper, Melchior and Balthazar, saw a new star shining high in the sky. These men, who were kings, studied the stars and they knew this was a very special star. They studied their scrolls where it said that whenever a bright new star appeared it meant that a great king had been born.



## The Wise Men follow the Star

The three wise men decided to find this new king. They went to Jerusalem to see King Herod as they thought the baby would be in his palace. They asked to see the child that would be King of the Jews. Herod was troubled. He thought this new king might take away his throne. He told them to return when they had found the baby so that he could worship the child himself. But he was lying!



## The Wise Men give their Gifts

The wise men set off to find the baby. They were guided by the star to the stable in Bethlehem. Here they knelt down and worshipped Jesus. They gave him gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh. That night, the three men had the same dream where an angel warned them that King Herod wanted to kill Jesus and told them not to go back to his palace.

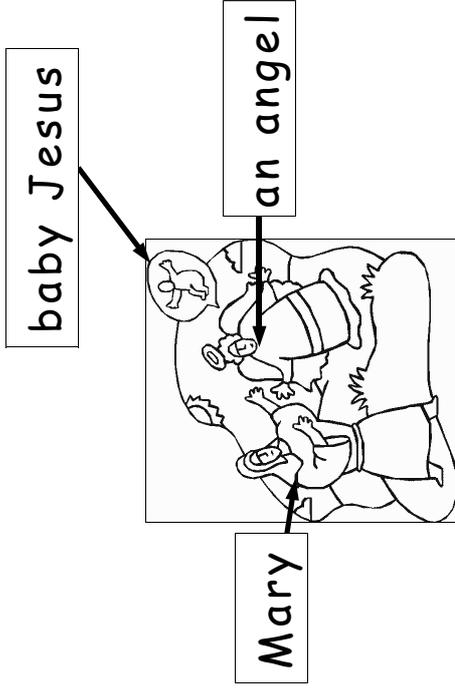


## Jesus is Safe

The wise men went back to their own country without calling to see Herod. Soon afterwards Joseph had a dream. In Joseph's dream, an angel told him to take Mary and Jesus to Egypt because King Herod had ordered that Jesus be killed. Mary and Joseph left Bethlehem right away. When the wise men did not return, Herod ordered that all baby boys in Bethlehem should be killed. They did not find Jesus because he was safe in Egypt.



# Mary and the angel



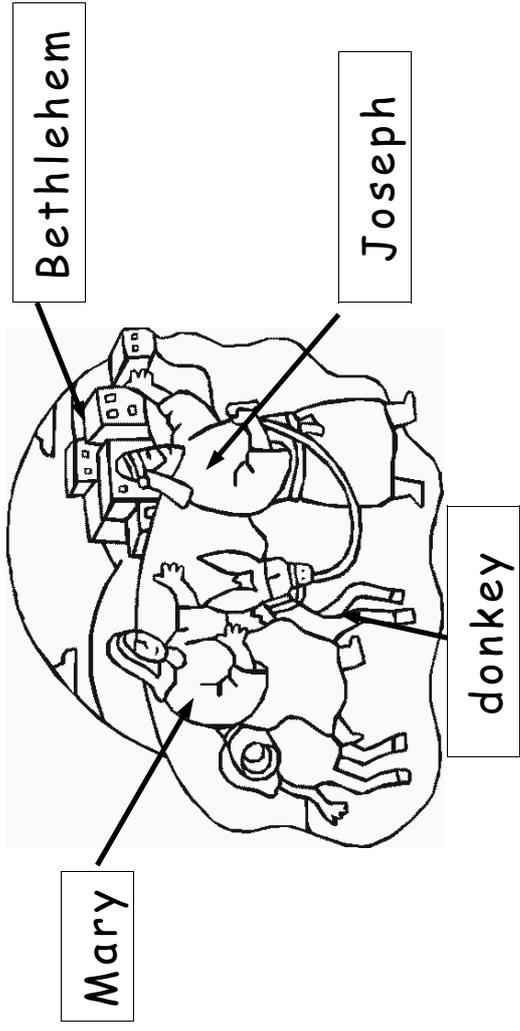
A long time ago

Nazareth

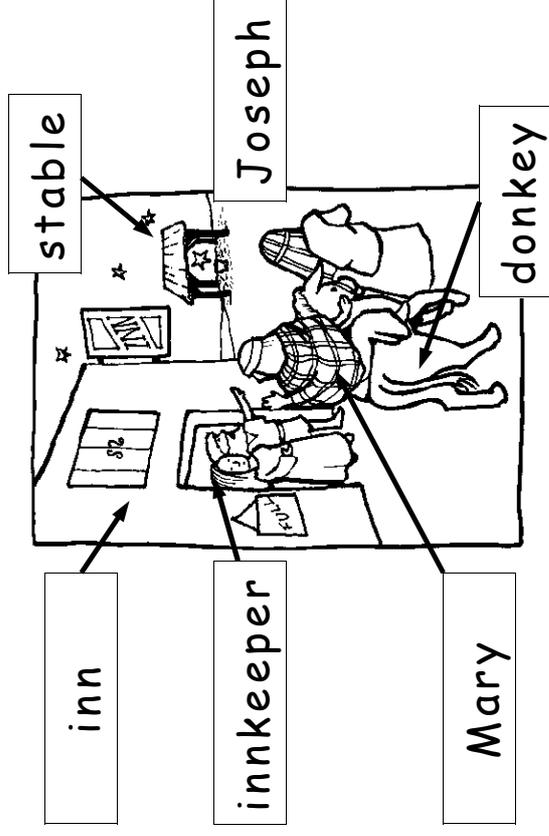
a special baby

God's son

# The journey to Bethlehem

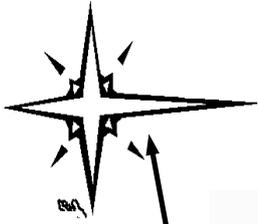


# No room at the inn

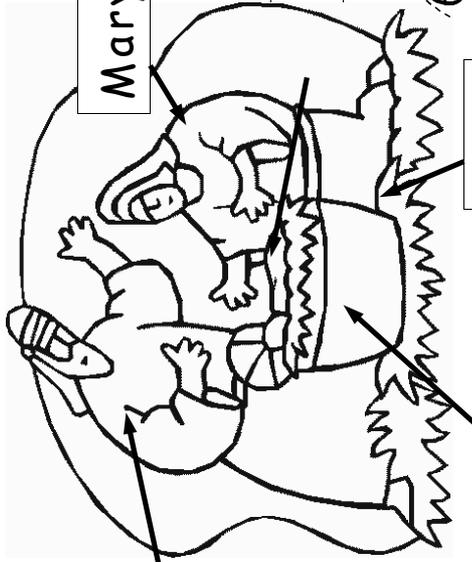


# Jesus is born

stable



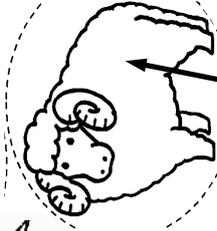
a special star



Mary

Joseph

by Jesus



sheep

hay

manger

# The shepherds hear the news

angel



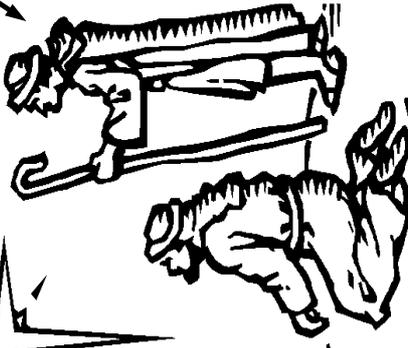
star



sheep



hillside



shepherds

The shepherds were afraid.

Don't be afraid.

good news



# A new star appears

Far away in the east

a very special star

three kings



gifts

followed a star

gold

frankincense

myrrh

