

Nativity



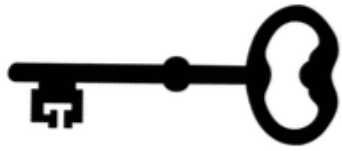
Escape Room



Date:
Time:
Place:

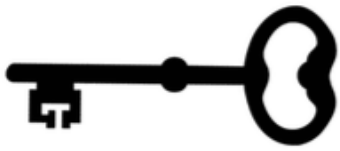


CAN YOU FIND THE KEY TO OPEN THE CHURCH DOORS AND MAKE YOUR ESCAPE?!!



Instructions

- 1) Each team will need: pencil & clipboard
- 2) Print off the 4 Cipher code sheets and the words for Cipher 5 and hang them around the church - don't make them too obvious – they need to hunt for them – you can do multiples of each, if you have a large crowd.
- 3) Give all the participants copies of the code sheets, excluding the final code sheet
- 4) Start the timer – if possible, have a big egg timer which can be visible too – it adds pressure! Keep shouting how long they have left to create a bit of a tense atmosphere!
- 5) The participants can complete the codes in any order. When a team / individual has completed all the codes they need to return to base and are given the final code sheet.
- 6) When they have cracked this final code, they are given a key which they take to the church door and then they are let out by showing the key. Encourage them to take their code sheets home with them.
- 7) It is nice to put a message on the key which includes the next event date and time.



Code 1

How did people know about Jesus' birth before it happened?!

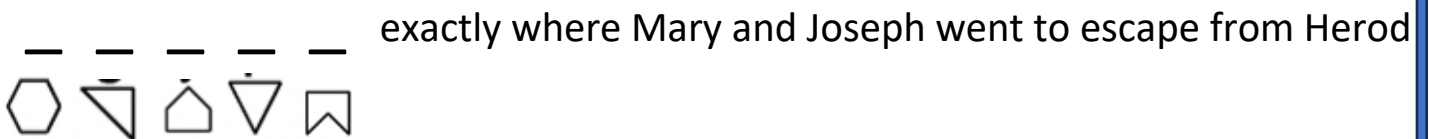
There are 44 prophecies in the Old Testament that match up with the birth and life of Jesus, who was born HUNDREDS OF YEARS LATER. Those who made these prophecies include Moses, Micah, Isaiah, King David, Hosea, Jeremiah, Zechariah and Malachi.

For example:

Around 700BC, the prophet Micah said that the Messiah would be born in



Around 725BC, the prophet Hosea said that the Messiah would come out of



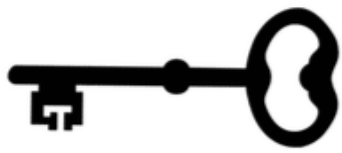
Around 750BC the prophet Isaiah said that the Messiah would be born of a virgin



The lives of these prophets were spread out over hundreds of years. So how did they know all this precise and correct information?

Numbers 12 v 6 gives us the answer ... can you work out what it is?





Code 2

How did the parents find out?

Imagine you are in Nazareth, a working-class town in Galilee. Nazareth is dusty, dingy and full of people working really hard for not a lot of money. The government recently increased people's taxes, so no-one is smiling (not much has changed, has it?!) There is a teenage girl named Mary living there, who is engaged to Joseph a carpenter.

One day Mary an angel appears to Mary and says:

-. - - - . . - / . - - . . . - . - . . / - - - . /
- - . - / - - - - / . - / . . . - - - - . /
. - - . - . . / - . - - - - . . - / . - . - . . / - - - - /
- . - . . - . - . . . - . . . / - - / . - - - -
. . .

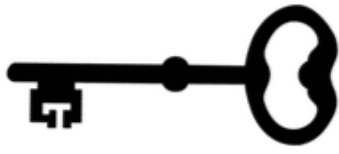
____ / ____ / ____ / ____ / ____ / ____ /
____ / ____ / ____ / ____ / ____ / ____ /
____ / ____

The angel also appears to Joseph in a dream and tells him to marry Mary and that she will have a son and that they should call him Jesus because he will:

. . . . - . . . - . / / . - - . . - - - . - . . -
. . . / . . - . . - . - - - - / - - . /
-

____ / ____ / ____ / ____ / ____ / ____ /

This is obviously not a normal baby!! Was your birth announced like this ... with angels?!



Code 3

Where will a prince be born?

Jesus is the Son of God. You would have thought that he should have been born in a palace, to a royal family. Instead, He was born in a working-class town:

UO>NLOPOO

which was full of people, due to the census that required everyone to return to their ancestral home town. The town is heaving with people ... and Mary is about to give birth to her baby! Uh oh! NOW WHAT?!!

There are no rooms available, so Mary gave birth in a

V>JULO

----- where the all the animals live!!!

She wrapped her new born baby and laid him in a

EOJOF

----- where the all the animals eat out of – a feeding trough!!

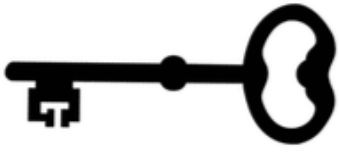
THIS WAS THE SON OF GOD **BUT**

NO V>JLOO >EOUO

____ / _____ / _____ / _____

.J<V> LΓUO <EO< & EO

____ / _____ / _____ / & / _____



Code 4

How did the wise men know where to go?

At that time the wise men were considered special astronomers. They believed that the night sky displayed God's artwork, but also that the stars were God's way of communicating with people. They saw a very important star and decide to follow it. They leave their home country which is where:

____ / _____ are today
42 24 41 33 / 42 24 41 44

To find the new born baby king they go to the:

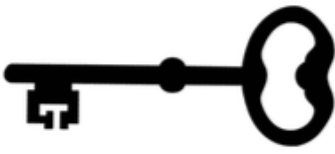
_____ in the capital _____
23 41 13 41 51 31 12 31 24 34 54 41 13 31 53

BUT HE ISN'T THERE!! Herod's advisors look up the town where the prophet Micah said that Jesus was going to be born. (Micah 5 v 2) Micah said this around 700 years before it happened!!! So, the wise men follow the star again and find the baby ... in the town where Micah said He would be!! AMAZING EH?!!! 😊

So why did the wise men trust the star to lead them to the new baby king?!! The prophet Isaiah who was around 750 years before Jesus, gives us a clue (Isaiah 40 v 26)

_____ is the _____ of every _____
22 43 11 51 24 31 41 14 43 24 54 14 41 24

He brings them out one by one and calls each one by _____
33 41 53 31



codes

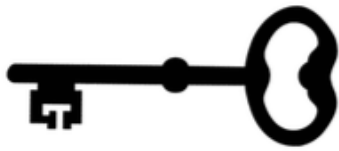
Who were the first people to find out about the baby?

Look around the area and find the missing words for each space. Please don't go over the altar rail – there are no clues over there!

This part of the Christmas story can be found in Luke chapter 2.

The _____ were
_____ in a _____ when
an _____ suddenly appeared in the _____
and told them that an _____ thing had
happened, a _____ had been _____.
He said that they will find the _____
wrapped in _____ and lying in a _____.
Then a huge _____ of _____ all appeared
and started _____ !!

Isn't it great news – the first people God chooses to tell that His Son has been born are not rich, posh or famous people! He tells ordinary people ... just like you and me!!



Final Code

First Number of Combination:

The Book of Numbers is mentioned in Code #1...Go back to the Bible reference and use this equation to find the first number in the answer code: The chapter in the Book of Numbers MINUS the verse MULTIPLIED by 2 = _____

Second Number of Combination:

The number of Jesus' parents the angel spoke to PLUS 7= _____

Third Number of Combination:

The number of letters in the word that means feeding trough for animals PLUS 1= _____

Fourth Number of Combination:

Chapter number, PLUS the verse number, of the part of the Bible which Herod's advisors read to see where the Messiah would be born, PLUS 1= _____

Fifth Number of Combination:

Chapter number, MULTIPLIED by 10, of the part of the bible where we learn about the first people to hear the good news about the birth of Jesus = _____

Enter the 5-digit code here to solve the Nativity Escape Room: _____

Translate these numbers into letters of the alphabet (1 = A, 2 = B etc) to come up with the password to ESCAPE!!! _____



May the incredible joy that filled the world at the birth of Jesus be with you and your family this Christmas.
From the

ARCHWAY Trust



Cipher 1

a	b	c	d	e	f	g	h	i	j	k	l	m
□	◇	△	▵	⬡	▷	▽	⊗	◀	∇	▽	▷	▴
n	o	p	q	r	s	t	u	v	w	x	y	z
◁	▯	▽	▮	○	▭	⋈	⊗	⊞	△	◁	◊	⊞





Cipher 2

A ● —
B — ● ● ●
C — ● — ●
D — ● ●
E ●
F ● ● — ●
G — — ●
H ● ● ● ●
I ● ●
J ● — — —

K — ● —
L ● — ● ●
M — —
N — ●
O — — —
P ● — — ●
Q — — ● —
R ● — ●
S ● ● ●
T —

U ● ● —
V ● ● ● —
W ● — —
X — ● —
Y — ● — —
Z — — ● ●





Cipher 3

A	B	C	J	K	L
D	E	F	M	N	O
G	H	I	P	Q	R

T	S	U	X	W	Y
	V			Z	





Cipher 4

	1	2	3	4	5
1	D	B	E	A	C
2	J	G	H	I	F
3	L	P	N	O	M
4	T	R	U	Q	S
5	Y	Z	X	V	W





Cipher 5

SMELLY

SHEPHERDS

SLEEPING

COLD

FIELD

ANGEL

SKY

AMAZING

SAVIOUR



Cipher 5

BORN

BABY

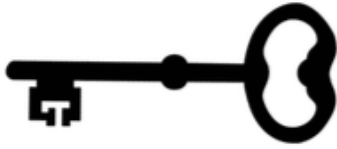
CLOTHS

MANGER

CROWD

ANGELS

SINGING



ANSWERS

Code 1:

- 1) Bethlehem
- 2) Egypt
- 3) Birth
- 4) I God spoke to them in dreams

Code 2:

- 1) You will give birth to a Son and you are to call Him Jesus
- 2) Save His people from their sins

Code 3:

- 1) Stable
- 2) Manger
- 3) He wanted to be just like you & me

Code 4:

- 1) Iran / Iraq
- 2) Palace Jerusalem
- 3) God Creator Star Name

Code 5:

The **smelly shepherds** were **sleeping** in a **cold field** when an **angel** suddenly appeared in the **sky** and told them that an **amazing** thing had happened, a **Saviour** had been **born**. He said that they will find the **baby** wrapped in **cloths** and lying in a **manger**.

Then a huge **crowd** of **angels** all appeared and started **singing!!**

Final Code:

12 9 7 8 20 = LIGHT