
A watercolor illustration of a room. On the left is a bay window with multiple panes. To the right of the window is a wooden bookshelf with several books. The books have colorful spines in shades of blue, pink, green, and yellow. The room is softly lit, and the overall style is painterly and gentle.

“Please, Nana, I was wondering—
I heard this song today—
It’s all about a baby boy,
Whose bed was made of hay!”

“Why, Nana, would a little boy,
Have no place else to sleep?
His home was in a stable, and
He shared the space with—sheep!”² 

*"It seems to me the song you heard,
About this baby's birth,
Describes the time when Jesus came
To make His home on Earth."*

*"Yes, that's the one," head nodding hard,
"I just forgot that part,
Please Nana, why was Jesus born?"
Good question—where to start?*





I reached across to where I'd placed
My Bible by my bed.
"Let's look in here to find out why,
And see what *His* friends said."

"God came to Earth in human form,
Two thousand years ago.
It was foretold in prophecy; ³ 🙏
The Bible tells us so."

I turned the pages 'til I found,
The Gospel of Matthew.
“Come sit by me and we will see
Just what this writer knew.”

“You have a dad, and so did I,
And both our dads did, too.
And they had dads—and those had dads,
If not—there'd be no you.”





“Matthew knew he must stay true,
To Jesus’ history.
He’d traced it back; in human terms,
It’s called a pedigree.”

“Luke did the same in his small book,
And most importantly—
He traced the line from Jesus’ mum,
That’s here in Chapter Three.”⁴ 🙄



Why was Jesus born?

Written by Margaret Wieland

Illustrated by Caleb Salisbury

Author's note

This is a book to be read to (with) children, not just given to them.

It's been a while since my last 'Please, Nana' book was published; Mary-Beth (my 'granddaughter', who inspired this series) was growing up and, in addition to my ongoing role with *Creation* magazine, there was a lot to do with her and for her. When life became a little less hectic, I finally had the time to work on this book and *What's a miracle?* together.

As before, the Nana Notes at the end of the book expand the simple poetry. They will likely help your own understanding of the birth of Jesus and the purpose of His life and death too, if you give them at least cursory attention before reading the book to a child. You will cover a period of some 4,000 years and, with a little research, you will also uncover some astonishing facts.

I can think of no better way for a little child to learn the realities of the universe than on the lap of a loving adult. It is my prayer that adults and children will treasure the time shared together, as we did, while laying a solid biblical foundation in young minds.

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