

Use “The Scene” to introduce “Everlasting Father” the Young Teen Sunday school lesson for December 17, 2017. The lesson is found on page 17 of *Young Teen Teacher* by Standard Publishing.



the **SCENE**

Viewing the latest news through the lens of Scripture

A Japanese court recently ruled that a father was legally responsible for a child born after his wife had secretly impregnated herself with a frozen embryo. This was done without his knowledge or permission, although he did have knowledge of the original creation and existence of the embryos, which were made as part of an IVF procedure. The couple was still married at the time of the child’s birth, though they were separated.

The man admitted that he was the biological father of the girl (now two years old), but he disputed legal paternity status since he had no say in the decision to actually give birth to the child.

Under Japanese law, the husband is presumed to be the father if the wife falls pregnant during the marriage (separation does not constitute the dissolution of the marriage).

The couple have since officially divorced.

*As students arrive, give each of them a copy of the article. Then discuss in this way:*

**What do you think of this story?**

**Do you think the father should be forced to provide financially for this child? Why or why not?**

**What do you think about the (former) wife’s actions?**

**This is an unusual story of a very odd path to fatherhood. Jesus’ birth resulted in an unusual situation for his earthly father Joseph as well. But Jesus came to earth to represent the ultimate father—our Everlasting Father. Today we’ll look at three characteristics of this dad who never fails.**