



## WEEK 2 - December 2019 - PRESCHOOL

**Bible Story Focus:** Jesus is born.

Jesus Is Born • *Luke 2:1-7*

**Memory Verse:** "God has given a son to us." Isaiah 9:6, NCV

**Key Question:** How do we know God loves us?

**Bottom Line:** God gave us Jesus.

**Basic Truth:** God loves me.

**Summary:** The very first Christmas was a string of God planned events that came together to create a wonder-filled story that would be told again and again and again. God sent His Son to earth in the form of a human baby who grew to be someone like no other. Ultimately, He gave His life for us.

This month, we celebrate the beautiful gift of Jesus. We want preschoolers to say again and again that, 'God gave us Jesus.' We want it to live deep within their hearts so they grow to trust that God loves them with a love so great that He gave them His one and only Son, Jesus, to be their friend forever.

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**9:00-9:10 | 10:30-10:40 | 12:00-12:10 - FREE PLAY**

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**9:10-9:25 | 10:40-10:55 | 12:10-12:25 - MAKE IT FUN**

## 1. Ride a Donkey

*Made to Move: An activity that uses a preschooler's natural desire to move to help them learn*

**What You Need:** No supplies needed

### What You Do:

*Before the Activity:* Guide the children to stand in front of you.

*During the Activity:* Challenge the children to pretend to ride a donkey all around the activity area. Repeat several times.

### What You Say:

*Before the Activity:* "Let's go for a ride!"

*During the Activity:* "We are going to pretend to take a ride around the room on a donkey! Riding a donkey is just like riding a horse. Are you ready for our ride on a donkey?" (*Demonstrate and do activity.*)

*After the Activity:* "Whew! That was a long ride. I am pooped! Today we are going to hear a Bible story about someone who took a long ride on a donkey, too! I am so excited to hear our Bible story today!"

**Transition:** Move to Worship and Story by pretending to ride a donkey to the story area.

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**9:25-9:45 | 10:55-11:15 | 12:25-12:45 - MAKE IT TRUE**

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**Story Focus:** Jesus is born. We find Mary and Joseph welcoming God's Son, Jesus, into the world in a stable. There were no trumpets or banners waving. No fancy palaces or crowds pushing to see.

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**9:45-10:05 | 11:15-11:35 | 12:45-1:05 MAKE IT STICK**

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## 1. Say It in the Stable

### Hear from God | Memory Verse Review

*Made to Move: An activity that uses a preschooler's natural desire to move to help them learn*

**What You Need:** floor tape

*(Use the floor tape to create the outline of a stable on the floor in the activity area. Make sure the stable outline is large enough for everyone to fit inside at one time.)*

**What You Do:**

*During the Activity:* Encourage the children to sit in the starry night scene (or the stable outline) and repeat the verse together. Then call out an animal for the children to mimic. Come out, go back in, repeat the verse, and call out a different animal for the children to mimic. Repeat as long as time and interest allow.

**What You Say:**

*During the Activity:* “Let’s all go into the stable and say our verse for this month together. Come with me. Let’s say our verse together! *God (point arms straight up) has given (cup both hands in front of you like you are giving something) a son (rock your arms like you’re holding a baby) to us (point your thumbs to your chest),* Isaiah 9:6. *(Hold hands open like a book.)*

“Great job! What does a cow say? Can you moo like a cow? *(Pause.)* Whoa, it sounds like there’s an entire herd of cattle inside this stable.”

*After the Activity:* “That was fun! *God has given a son to us.* Who is God’s Son? *(Pause.)* Yes! Jesus. What an amazing gift. **How do we know God loves us? [Bottom Line] God gave us Jesus.**”

**2. Jesus Is Born**

**Live for God | Application Activity**

*Made to Move:* An activity that uses a preschooler’s natural desire to move to help them learn

**What You Need:** The monthly song

**What You Do:**

*Before the Activity:* Guide the children to stand in front of you.

*During the Activity:* Turn the music on and ask the children to dance. Allow the children to dance any way they would like. Repeat the activity several times.

**What You Say:**

*Before the Activity:* “Let’s celebrate that Jesus is born!”

*During the Activity:* “I am going to turn our song for this month. When you hear the music, start to dance.” *(Do activity.)*

*After the Activity:* “Whew! That was so much fun celebrating that **[Bottom Line] God gave us Jesus! How do we know God loves us? [Bottom Line] God gave us Jesus!**”

### 3. Baby Jesus Ornament

#### Live for God | Application Activity

*Made to Create:* An activity that allows preschoolers to review the Bible story, *Bottom Line*, or memory verse by creating a craft

**What You Need:** Large foam stars (one per child); raffia; “Baby Jesus” Activity Page; cardstock; scissors; crayons; white liquid glue; yarn or string; clear tape; “Ornament Labels” Activity Page; and Avery® #5160 labels or equivalent

#### What You Do:

*Before the Activity:* Copy the “Baby Jesus” Activity Page on cardstock and cut on the dotted lines (one cutout per child). Copy the “Ornament Labels” onto the label paper (one per child). Cut the raffia into two- to three-inch sections and the yarn into six-inch sections. Set the baby Jesus cutouts, foam stars, and crayons on the table.

*During the Activity:* Encourage the children to use the crayons to color a baby Jesus cutout. Help the children squeeze a small amount of school glue onto the center of the star and press a few pieces of raffia into the glue. Then squeeze a small amount of glue on top of the raffia and add the baby Jesus cutout to the front. Give each child a six-inch piece of yarn. Show the children how to fold the yarn in half to form a loop. Secure the ends of the yarn to the back with clear tape, and press the label over the tape to secure as a hanger for the ornament.

*After the Activity:* Set aside the ornaments to dry until pick up. Gather all the supplies from the table for clean-up.

#### What You Say:

*During the Activity:* “Let’s make an ornament together to remind us that **[Bottom Line] God gave us Jesus!** First, choose a baby Jesus cutout on the table to color.”

*After the Activity:* “I LOVE your ornaments. They are beautiful! When you get home, add this to your tree to help you remember that **[Bottom Line] God gave us Jesus. How do we know God loves us? [Bottom Line] God gave us Jesus.**”

### 4. Journal and Prayer

#### Pray to God | Prayer Activity

*Made to Reflect:* An activity that encourages personal application and prayer

**What You Need:** Paperclip “Memory Verse Card” in your Bible at Isaiah 9:6, NCV. Provide a journal and a fun-shaped pen for each small group.

**SMALL GROUP LEADER (SGL):** “It’s Small Group time. Cradle your arms like this (*demonstrate*) and pretend you are holding a little-bitty baby. Aww, your babies are so cute! Let’s walk very carefully so we don’t wake up our sleeping babies.

*(Pretend to hold a baby as you lead the children to your Small Group spot.)*

“Now let’s lay our babies down carefully so they can sleep while we talk.

*(Pretend to lay your baby down.)*

“Wow! You are great with babies! Let’s sit down now and talk about the real baby that was born in our Bible story today. One, two, three, sit down with me!

*(Open the Bible and lay it open in front of the children.)*

“Okay, I know you know the answer to this question. What baby was born in our story today? *(Pause.)* Yes! Jesus!

“Mary and Joseph went all the way to Bethlehem. When they got there, they couldn’t find a place to stay. Where did Mary lay baby Jesus when He was born? *(Pause.)* Yes! Mary wrapped baby Jesus in cloth and laid Him in a manger.

“And that is how God showed us how much He loves us. **[Bottom Line] God gave us Jesus** to be our friend forever. **How do we know God loves us?”**

**CHILDREN and SGL: [Bottom Line] “God gave us Jesus!”**

**SGL:** “And the Bible verse we are learning will help us remember that **[Bottom Line] God gave us Jesus**. It says this.

*(Turn the pages of your Bible to the Memory Verse Card.)*

“*God has given a son to us, Isaiah 9:6.*

*(Close Bible and lay it down.)*

“Let’s stand up and say that together with the motions. Just say what I say and do what I do.”

**CHILDREN and SGL:** “*God (point arms straight up) has given (cup both hands in front of you like you are giving something) a son (rock your arms like you’re holding a baby) to us (point your thumbs to your chest), Isaiah 9:6.*” *(Hold hands open like a book.) (Repeat the verse with motions a few times.)*

**SGL:** “Awesome! *(Give high fives.)* Now let’s sit down and write in our journal and pray.”

*(Hold journal and fun-shaped pen.)*

“Today we are going to make a list of things Jesus grew up to do. I mean, baby Jesus didn’t stay a baby, did He? No! Jesus grew up to do amazing things! Jesus fed lots and lots of people, He walked on water, He calmed storms, He made sick people all better, He was a good friend to everyone, and He taught people about God. Jesus grew up and did all kinds of wonderful things!

“When I say your name, tell me one thing Jesus did when He grew up, and I will write it in our prayer journal. We can use our list when we pray to thank God for giving us such an amazing friend like Jesus!

*(Say each child’s name and write down what they say. Remember to print the names so the children can recognize their names and the letters.)*

“This list is fantastic! Let’s use it to thank God for giving us Jesus. Would anyone like to pray before I pray?”

*(Give each child who wants to pray the opportunity to do so.)*

## **Prayer**

**SGL:** “Dear God, we love Christmas because it’s when we get to celebrate that Jesus was born! Thank You for giving us Jesus. Thank You that He grew up to do amazing things like *(read the list the children made)* AND He died and came back, just like He said He would! Jesus does things only He can do. That makes Him the most AMAZING friend EVER! We love You, God. In Jesus’ name, amen.”