



WEEK 4- December 2019 - TWO'S

Bible Story Focus: God gave us Jesus because He loves us.

Happy Birthday Jesus! • *Retell the Entire Christmas Story*

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.

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

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

1. Gift of the Heart

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

What You Need: Gift boxes with lids (one per three children), gift bows, and foam hearts

What You Do:

Before the Activity: Place a bow on each lid of the gift boxes. Place a heart inside each box and replace the lids. Place the boxes all over the activity area.

During the Activity: Encourage the children to work together and find the gifts. Encourage the children to open each box and pull out the heart. Continue the activity until all of the gifts have been opened and all of the hearts collected.

What You Say:

Before the Activity: "There are Christmas gifts all over our room!" (*Point.*)

During the Activity: "Let's work together and open the gifts and see what is inside. (*Do activity.*) Great job! What is inside? (*Pause.*) A heart! A heart reminds me of the gift of God's love! Let's keep opening the gifts!" (*Finish activity.*)

After the Activity: "We found ALL of the hearts! God loves us so much that He gave us Jesus! Let's get ready to hear the Bible story that tells us when God gave us Jesus!"

Transition: Move to Bible story time by drawing a heart in the air with your finger as you walk to the story area.

9:25-9:45 | 10:55-11:15 | 12:25-12:45 - MAKE IT TRUE (snack)

What You Need: This month's worship song, "What Christmas Is About."

LEADER: "This is it! We celebrate Christmas THIS week. Can you believe it? Christmas is when we celebrate the gift of Jesus! **How do we know God loves us? [Bottom Line] God gave us Jesus.** Let's sing out and tell God we love Him!

(Lead children in singing "What Christmas is About," this month's worship song.)

LEADER: "Beautiful singing, friends! I know God LOVES it when we sing and dance and praise Him together. I'm so glad that **[Bottom Line] God gave us Jesus!**"

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

1. Stick to the Stars

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: Star stickers (one per child)

What You Do:

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

During the Activity: Ask the children to say the memory verse. Then give them each a star sticker. Repeat as desired.

What You Say:

Before the Activity: "Let's say our memory verse together!" (*Say verse with children.*)

During the Activity: "Great job! Everyone gets a star sticker for saying the memory verse! It is just like the starry night when **[Bottom Line] God gave us Jesus!**"

After the Activity: "God loves us so much that He gave us Jesus! **How do we know God loves us? [Bottom Line] God gave us Jesus!**"

2. Walk the Story

Talk About God | Bible Story Review

Made to Explore: An activity that channels a preschooler's innate curiosity into a discussion of the week's crucial concepts

What You Need: "Story Walk" Activity Pages, cardstock, and wall tape

What You Do:

Before the Activity: Copy the "Story Walk" Activity Pages on the cardstock. Tape the pages in random order on a wall in the activity area.

During the Activity: Ask the children to point to the picture that comes first (*Mary and the angel*) and start retelling the Bible story. Ask the children to point to the next picture (*stable*) and continue retelling the story. Ask the children which part comes next and ask them to point to the last picture (*shepherds*).

After the Activity: Finish retelling the story.

What You Say:

Before the Activity: "We have pictures of our story on the wall." (*Point.*)

During the Activity: "Let's work together and decide which picture comes first. Do you remember which part of the Bible story came first? (*Pause.*) Yes! The picture of Mary and the angel is first. God sent an angel to tell Mary that she would have a special baby: JESUS! Can you show me the picture that comes next in our story? (*Pause.*) You got it! It is the picture of the stable. Mary and Joseph made a long journey to Joseph's hometown and Mary was very tired! She was going to have a baby. There was no room for Mary and Joseph to stay in, so they found a stable. A stable is where animals live.

Jesus was born in the stable. Can you show me the last picture in our story? *(Pause.)* Perfect! The last picture is of the shepherds. God sent angels to tell the shepherds that Jesus was born! The shepherds told everyone that **[Bottom Line] God gave us Jesus!**

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

3. Make a Cake

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: “Plate” Activity Page, cardstock, three different colors of construction paper, scissors, and glue sticks

What You Do:

Before the Activity: Copy the “Plate” Activity Page onto the cardstock (one per child). Cut one of the colors of construction paper into two-inch by six-inch sections. Cut a second color of construction paper into two-inch by four-inch sections. Cut the last color of construction paper into two-inch squares. Each child will need one section of each color.

During the Activity: Give each child an Activity Page and the three sections of construction paper. Help the children glue the strips onto the cardstock under the candle in a stack formation. The longest strip will be on the bottom, the second longest strip should be on top of the first strip, and the smallest strip will be on top.

After the Activity: Sing “Happy Birthday” to Jesus.

What You Say:

Before the Activity: “We are going to make a cake for Jesus’ birthday!”

During the Activity: *(Give each child an Activity Page and the three sections of paper.)* “Find the longest strip of paper. *(Pause.)* Great job! Glue the strip on the bottom of your page. *(Point.)* Perfect! Now find the next longest piece and glue it above the other strip. Awesome! Now we will finish our cake by placing the smallest strip above of the other two strips. Perfect!”

After the Activity: “Happy birthday, Jesus! Let’s sing ‘Happy Birthday’ to Jesus. *(Sing with the children.)* **[Bottom Line] God gave us Jesus! How do we know God loves us? [Bottom Line] God gave us Jesus!**”

