

WEEK 5 - December 2019 - TWO'S

Bible Story Focus: The wise men come to see God's Son.

The Wise Men • Matthew 2:1-2, 9-11

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. Shape Sorter

Made to Play: An activity that encourages preschoolers to follow guidelines while having fun and learning new concepts

What You Need: Several shape sorters that include the shape of a star

What You Do:

Before the Activity: Place the shape sorters in the activity area.

During the Activity: Encourage the children to work together and play with the shape sorters. Emphasize the star as the children play. Be sure each child gets a turn to play with the shape sorter.

What You Say:

Before the Activity: "We are going to play with shapes."

During the Activity: (Hold up the shape sorter.) "There are a lot of shapes that go into the shape sorter. Pick up a shape and try to find the correct hole to put it in. I see a star! We are going to talk about a special star today." (Do activity.)

After the Activity: "You did a great job! You matched all of the shapes and got them into the correct holes. One of the shapes is a star. Today our Bible story is about a very special star. I am so excited to hear our Bible story today!"

Transition: Move to Bible story time by challenging the children to draw a star in the air with their fingers as they 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: "Hello, hello, friends. This is our LAST week to celebrate Jesus' birthday. Let's make it the biggest week yet! **How do we know God loves us?** [Bottom Line] **God gave us Jesus.** Let's dance and sing and shout and tell God how much we love Him.

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

"I know God LOVES it when we sing to Him! How do we know God loves us? [Bottom Line] God gave us Jesus."

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

1. Star Hop

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 Hop" Activity Page, cardstock, and floor tape

What You Do:

Before the Activity: Copy "Star Hop" on cardstock (8-10 stars per activity). Tape each star on the floor in a pathway around the activity area. Each star should be about one and a half feet from the next.

During the Activity: Have the children hop on the stars around the activity area as they say the memory verse. Repeat as desired.

What You Say:

Before the Activity: "Our memory verse is about how God gave us Jesus!"

During the Activity: "I see stars on the floor. A star led the wise men to see Jesus! Let's hop on the stars while we say our memory verse." (Do activity.)

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

2. Dance

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: Turn on the music.

During the Activity: Encourage the children to dance to the music. Repeat as desired.

What You Say:

Before the Activity: "Let's dance!"

During the Activity: "When you hear the music, start dancing! Let's celebrate that God gave us Jesus!" (Do activity.)

After the Activity: "Great job! [Bottom Line] God gave us Jesus because He loves us so much. How do we know God loves us? [Bottom Line] God gave us Jesus!"

3. Shining Star

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: "Shining Star" Activity Page, cardstock, scissors, clear tape, star cutouts (one per child), and yellow dot markers

What You Do:

Before the Activity: Copy the "Shining Star" Activity Page onto the cardstock and cut on the dotted lines. Each child will need one half of an Activity Page. Roll pieces of tape and place one on the back of each star cutout. Tape a star to the middle of each Activity Page.

During the Activity: Give each child one half of an Activity Page. Challenge the children to use the markers to color all around the star.

After the Activity: Remove the star from the page to reveal the outline of the star.

What You Say:

Before the Activity: "We heard a great story about a special star today."

During the Activity: "We are going to make a really cool picture of a star that you can use to tell your family all about how the wise men followed the star to see Jesus. Use the markers to color all around the star." (Do activity.)

After the Activity: "When we remove the star on the page, look what happens! (Finish activity.) There is still a star! God put a star in the sky to show the wise men where to go to see Jesus! God loves us so much He gave us Jesus! How do we know God loves us? [Bottom Line] God gave us Jesus!"