



## WEEK 1 - December 2020 - PRESCHOOL

**Today's Bible Story:** God told us He would give us Jesus.

The Angel and Mary • *Luke 1:26-33, 38, 46-49*

**Memory Verse:** "God loved the world so much that he gave his only Son." John 3:16, GNT

**Key Question:** Why is Jesus special?

**Bottom Line:** Jesus is God's Son.

**Basic Truth:** God loves me.

### Make it Fun

*Activities to help kids transition into the classroom and set up the bible story.*

-Baby match

### Make it True

*Captivate kids with a bible story and help them understand how it connects to their world*

-Large group time

### Make it Stick

*Activities and crafts that help kids personalize the story and apply the truths to their life.*

-Memory Verse with motions  
-Angels Dancing  
-Paper plate Angels  
-Journal and prayer

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## **First 15 min - MAKE IT FUN**

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### **2. Baby Match**

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

**What You Need:** Pictures of: Medium-sized bucket or basket, two baby bottles, two pacifiers, two diapers, two baby blankets, and two bibs, and anything else baby related!

#### **What You Do:**

*Before the Activity:* Place all of items into the basket or bucket. You should have two of each item in the bucket or basket

*During the Activity:* Invite the children to pull out the items in the bucket or basket. Challenge the children to find the pairs. Example: Find the two baby bottles.

#### **What You Say:**

*Before the Activity:* "Let's work together to make matches. There are items in this bucket that a baby needs.

*During the Activity:* (Choose a child to be first.) "Choose an item that a baby needs and look for the match." (Do activity.) Great job! You found two [item matched]." (Continue and finish activity, making sure every child gets a turn.)

*After the Activity:* "Great job! We found all of the matches! Today, we'll hear a Bible story about someone who had a baby. A very SPECIAL baby!"

**Transition:** Move to Worship and Story by pretending to carry a baby as you walk to the story area.

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## Large group - MAKE IT TRUE

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### Large Group Overview:

Story Focus: God told us He would give us Jesus. During week one, our preschoolers will learn that an angel told Mary that she was going to have a baby. He told her this baby would be very special. His name would be Jesus, and He would be God's Son.

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## Last 20 min- MAKE IT STICK

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### 1. Memory Verse with Motions

#### 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:** No supplies needed.

#### What You Do:

*Before the Activity:* Say the memory verse and do the following motions in front of the children.

*God (point up)  
loved the world so much (hug yourself)  
that he gave (hands out with palms up)  
his only Son, (rock arms like a baby)  
John 3:16. (Open hands like a book.)*

*During the Activity:* Say the verse with the motions again and invite the children to do it with you. Repeat several times.

#### What You Say:

*Before the Activity:* "I'm going to say our new memory verse. Everyone, watch me!"

*"God (point up)  
loved the world so much (hug yourself)  
that he gave (hands out with palms up)  
his only Son,' (rock arms like a baby)  
John 3:16." (Open hands like a book.)*

*During the Activity:* "Now, let's do it together! Are you ready?"

*"God (point up)  
loved the world so much (hug yourself)  
that he gave (hands out with palms up)  
his only Son,' (rock arms like a baby)*

John 3:16.” (*Open hands like a book.*)

## 2. Angel Dancing

### 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:** Music player, the monthly song, and tissue paper

#### What You Do:

*During the Activity:* Give each child a piece of tissue paper to hold in the middle and flap like wings. Play the monthly song and stop the music sporadically. Each time you stop the music, the children must freeze. Continue as time and interest allow.

*After the Activity:* Gather all tissue to throw away for clean-up.

#### What You Say:

*During the Activity:* “In our Bible story, we heard how an angel visited Mary with a very special message! Let’s dance and sing to the music. I will give each of you some tissue paper to flap like angel’s wings. (*Demonstrate.*) When the music stops, I want you to freeze in place until the music starts again. Let’s dance and sing!”

*After the Activity:* “That was so fun! The angel told Mary she would have a very special baby. Who was that baby? (*Pause.*) Jesus! God told us He would give us Jesus, and He did! **Why is Jesus special? [Bottom Line] Jesus is God’s Son.**”

## 3. Paper Plate Angel

### 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:** “Angel Story” and “Angel Face” Activity Pages; Avery® #5160 labels or equivalent; 2½ inch circle punch; paper plates; cardstock; white feathers; pen; and glue sticks

#### What You Do:

*Before the Activity:* Copy “Angel Story” on the label paper, one per child. Copy “Angel Face” on cardstock and cut out with circle punch, one per child. Fold paper plate to create triangle body with flaps in front. Write child’s name on their plate.

*During the Activity:* Encourage children to glue the “Angel Face” to the tip of the paper plate triangle. Glue feathers to the back of the paper plate for wings. Add the “Angel Story” label to the front bottom of the plate.

*After the Activity:* Talk about how God sent an angel to tell Mary she would have a special baby.

#### What You Say:

*Before the Activity:* “Today, we heard that God sent an angel to a woman named Mary to tell her that she would have a special baby named Jesus. This baby was special because Jesus is God’s Son.”

*During the Activity:* “Let’s make an angel to remember our story. Glue the face to the top of your paper plate. *(Pause.)* Flip it over and glue some feathers to the top of the plate. Make sure they stick out. These are the angel’s wings. *(Pause.)* Good job! Now add the label. *(Pause.)* Your angels look great! Hold them up in the air. *(Pause.)* In our story, the angel came to Mary and told her not to be afraid and that she would have a baby! The angel told her to call Him Jesus and said He will be so special because **[Bottom Line] Jesus is God’s Son.**”

*After the Activity:* “The angel told Mary that God was giving us a very special gift, His Son, Jesus. **Why is Jesus special? [Bottom Line] Jesus is God’s Son.**”

#### 4. Journal and Prayer

##### Pray to God | Prayer Activity

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

**What You Need:** Paperclipped “Memory Verse Card” in Bible at John 3:16, journal, a fun-shaped pen, and angel cookie cutter

**SMALL GROUP LEADER (SGL):** “It’s Small Group time! Today, we’ll flap our arms and pretend to fly like angels to our small group spot. Here we go! Fly with me! *(Flap your arms as you lead the children to your small group spot.)*

“This is our spot! Let’s sit down and talk about today’s Bible story. One, two, three, sit down with me! *(Open the Bible and lay it in front of the children.)*

“Our Bible story, today, was about an angel who had a very important message for a girl named Mary. The angel told Mary that she would have a special baby and the baby’s name would be . . . *(pause for response)* . . . you’re right! The baby’s name would be Jesus! And **why is Jesus special?**”

**CHILDREN and SGL: [Bottom Line] “Jesus is God’s Son!”**

**SGL:** “Yes! **[Bottom Line] Jesus is God’s Son.** The Bible verse we are learning says . . . *(Turn the pages of your Bible to the Memory Verse Card.)*

“*God loved the world so much that he gave his only Son, John 3:16. (Close Bible and lay it down.)*

“Let’s stand up and say that together with the motions.”

**CHILDREN and SGL:**

“God *(point up)*  
loved the world so much *(hug yourself)*

that he gave *(hands out with palms up)*  
his only Son,' *(rock arms like a baby)*  
John 3:16." *(Open hands like a book.)*

*(Repeat the verse with motions a few times.)*

**SGL:** "God loves you *(point to child)* and you *(point to child)* and you and you . . . *(point to every child)* so much that He gave us His Son, Jesus, to be our friend forever! That's what the true story of Christmas is all about. That's why Jesus is SO special! **Why is Jesus special?"**

**CHILDREN and SGL:** *[Bottom Line]* "Jesus is God's Son!"

**SGL:** *(Clap and cheer.)* "Yay! *[Bottom Line]* Jesus is God's Son!"

"Okay, let's sit down so we can write in our prayer journal and talk to God. *(Hold journal and fun-shaped pen and the angel cookie cutter for the children to see.)*

"The angel told Mary that God was giving the world a very special gift: His Son, Jesus. Since gifts are a big part of Christmas, I thought we could make a list of gifts that we really hope to get this Christmas. First, I will write 'JESUS' at the top of our prayer journal, because Jesus is the best gift ever. *(Write JESUS at top of page.)* There. Now, when I say your name, you get to hold the angel cookie cutter and tell me one gift that you really hope to get this Christmas. I will write it in our prayer journal, then you will give the cookie cutter to the next name I call out. The only person who can talk is the person holding the angel cookie cutter. Got it? Okay, get ready and listen for your name."

*(Say each child's name, make sure they get to hold the angle cookie cutter. Write down what they say. Remember to print the names so the children can recognize their names and the letters.)*

**SGL:** "This is a fun list! Knowing what gifts you like helps me know you better. Let's use the list we made when we talk to God. Would anyone like to pray before I pray?"

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

### **Prayer**

**SGL:** "Dear God, thank You for blessing me with *(name each child)*. I love having each of them in my small group. Thank You for Christmas and all we get to celebrate this time of year. Thank You for things like *(read what each child listed)*. It would be fun to get all of these gifts, but help us remember that we already received the best gift ever: Jesus. We love You, God. In Jesus' name, amen."

