



WEEK 3 - December 2020 - TWO'S

Today's Bible Story: The angels tell about Jesus.

The Shepherds • *Luke 2:8-20*

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

.- Follow

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.

-Around the world
-Good news
-Candy cane crook

First 15 min - MAKE IT FUN

1. Follow

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

What You Need: Pool noodle cut in half

What You Do:

Before the Activity: Have the children line up behind you.

During the Activity: Lead the children around the room while holding the noodle. Explain that you are a shepherd, and the noodle is your shepherd's staff.

After the Activity: Allow the children to take turns as the shepherd and lead the other children. Allow the child who is the shepherd to hold the staff. Sanitize the noodle between children.

What You Say:

Before the Activity: "I am a shepherd, and you can all be my little sheep."

During the Activity: "My job is to lead my sheep around, so follow me! This is my shepherd's staff that helps me lead my sheep. *(Hold up noodle then do activity.)* Awesome; you are sweet little sheep! Would someone else like to be the shepherd and hold the staff?" *(Finish activity.)*

After the Activity: "Great job! You are great sheep and great shepherds. Today, we'll hear a Bible story about how the shepherds got a special message! I wonder what it could be!"

Transition: Move to Worship and Story by telling the children that you are the shepherd again and to follow you.

Large group - MAKE IT TRUE (snack)

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

LEADER: "Hey there, friends! Raise your hand if you're ready for Christmas. *(Pause.)* Me, too! Christmas is the day we celebrate Jesus, the best gift ever. Why did God send Jesus? Because **[Basic Truth] God loves me!** It's true, friends. **[Bottom Line] Jesus is God's Son.** So let's celebrate, sing and shout it! On your feet, friends!"

Lead children in singing "Jesus Is," this month's worship song.

"Why is Jesus special?"

CHILDREN and LEADER: [Bottom Line] “Jesus is God’s Son.”

LEADER: “God loves us SO much that He sent us His Son! Jesus is a gift for every girl and boy.”

Last 20 min- MAKE IT STICK

1. Around the World

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: A large world map OR blue butcher paper, markers, scissors, and floor tape

What You Do:

Before the Activity: Place the map in the center of the activity area. If using butcher paper, cut out a large circle and draw land on it, then tape it securely to the floor.

During the Activity: Have the children stand around the map. Ask the children to walk around the map while saying the memory verse. Repeat several times.

What You Say:

Before the Activity: “The whole world is on our floor (*point*). Our memory verse tells us that God loves the world so much that He gave us Jesus.”

During the Activity: “Let’s all walk around the world while we say our memory verse. (*Do activity.*) Great job! Let’s do it again!” (*Finish activity.*)

After the Activity: “You did a fantastic job! God loves us so much that He gave us Jesus! **Why is Jesus special? [Bottom Line] Jesus is God’s Son!**”

2. Good News

Talk about God | Bible Story Review

Made to Imagine: An activity that lets preschoolers pretend, imagine, and role play to enhance their learning

What You Need: Bible, cotton balls, and toy nativity set

What You Do:

Before the Activity: Place the toy nativity on one end of the room. Invite the children to gather around you on the opposite end of the room.

During the Activity: Give each child a cotton ball to hold. Pretend the cotton balls are sheep. Guide the children in acting out the Bible story by pretending to be shepherds, running to see baby Jesus then running from place to place repeating the Bottom Line together.

What You Say:

Before the Activity: “Come here! I want to talk about today’s Bible story.” (*Hold up Bible.*)

During the Activity: “Our Bible story was about the birth of Baby Jesus! Let’s pretend we’re shepherds while we talk about the Bible story.

“If we are shepherds, we need sheep. Let’s pretend these are little sheep. (*Give each child a cotton ball to hold.*) What do sheep say? Baa-baa! Baa-baa! That’s right! Shepherds take care of their sheep. So, make sure you take care of your little sheep. (*Pretend to pet the sheep.*) There, there little sheep. I’ll take care of you.

“Okay, the angel told the shepherds that Baby Jesus was born. Let’s go see Baby Jesus. Follow me! (*Walk quickly to the toy nativity to see Jesus.*) Look, It’s Baby Jesus! **Why is Jesus special? [Bottom Line] Jesus is God’s Son!** Yes! **[Bottom Line] Jesus is God’s Son.** This is GOOD NEWS! We need to go tell everyone! Take care of your little sheep and follow me. (*Walk quickly from place to place in the room announcing the GOOD NEWS.*) **[Bottom Line] Jesus is God’s Son! [Bottom Line] Jesus is God’s Son! [Bottom Line] Jesus is God’s Son!**”

After the Activity: “Everyone sit with me. Do you still have your little sheep? Good job! We did just like the shepherds in the Bible story did and told everyone the GOOD NEWS that **[Bottom Line] Jesus is God’s Son! Why is Jesus special? [Bottom Line] Jesus is God’s Son!**”

3. Candy Cane Crook

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: “Candy Cane” and “Crook” Activity Pages; Avery® #5160 labels or equivalent; red cardstock; cotton balls; glue sticks; and scissors; *Optional hole punch and yarn*

What You Do:

Before the Activity: Copy “Candy Cane” on red cardstock and cut out, one per child. Copy “Crook” on label paper, one per child. *Optional: punch a hole at the top of the candy cane and knot a loop of yarn through it.*

During the Activity: Encourage children to make stripes of glue on the candy cane shape and cover them with cotton balls to make the white stripes of a candy cane. Add the “Crook” Label to the back. Talk about how the candy cane is like the shape of a shepherd’s crook.

After the Activity: Talk about how the angels came to the shepherds to tell them that Jesus, God’s Son, had been born.

What You Say:

Before the Activity: “What does this shape look like? (*Pause.*) It could be a hook, or a ‘J’ (*hold it up like the letter J*), or a candy cane!”

During the Activity: “In our Bible story today, we learned about some shepherds. Shepherds take care of sheep. They use a crook to guide the sheep where they want them to go. Well a

crook looks a lot like a candy cane. Let's make this look like a candy cane by adding some white stripes. Glue some lines on your candy cane then cover them with cotton balls. *(Pause.)* Wow! Super job. Now, flip it over, and let's add this label so you can know where to find our story in the Bible. *(Pause.)* Perfect!"

After the Activity: "The shepherds in our Bible story were visited by one angel who told them the wonderful news that Jesus, God's Son, had been born. Then the sky was filled with angels praising God and saying 'Glory to God in the highest!' When the angels left, the shepherds quickly went to find Baby Jesus in the manger. Once they saw Him, they knew that everyone needed to know that Jesus was born. **Why is Jesus special? [Bottom Line] Jesus is God's Son.**"