



TODAY'S SUGGESTED SCHEDULE

TODAY'S BIBLE STORY

High Hopes
Jesus is Promised
Isaiah 9:6

TODAY'S KEY QUESTION

What are you hoping for?

TODAY'S BOTTOM LINE

We can have hope because
God keeps His promises.

MONTHLY MEMORY VERSE

Today in the town of David a
Savior has been born to you.
He is the Messiah, the Lord.
Luke 2:11, NIV

MONTHLY LIFE APP

Christmas—Celebrating Jesus,
God's greatest gift

BASIC TRUTH

I can trust God no matter what.

PRELUDE: Setting the tone for the experience

See the **Getting Ready** pages at the end of this document for a detailed description of what you'll need for today. In the **Prelude** folder of your curriculum, you'll find a variety of other resources to help you prepare.

SMALL GROUP

15
MIN

SOCIAL: Providing time for fun interaction

Early Arriver
Opening Activity

LARGE GROUP

35
MIN

STORY: Communicating God's truth in engaging ways **WORSHIP: Inviting people to respond to God**

Welcome/Opener
Worship ("12 Days of Christmas" from *Jingle Jam Wrapped Up*, "Joy to the World (Glory to the King)" from *Joy to the World (Glory to the King)* single, and "Who You Say I Am" from *Who You Say I Am* single)
Bible Story (Communicator Script)
Key Question
Prayer

SMALL GROUP

25
MIN

GROUPS: Creating a safe place to connect

Application Activity: Take a Snapshot and Discussion Questions
Bible Story Review: Bible Story Review
Memory Verse Activity: Verses to Take with You
Prayer Activity: Make it Personal with Prayer

HOME: Prompting action beyond the experience

Parent Cue Card (print or email)
GodTime devotional for kids
Studio252.tv
Parent Cue App



PRELUDE

SOCIAL

STORY

WORSHIP

GROUPS

HOME

25 MINUTES

10 MINUTES

TODAY'S BIBLE STORY

High Hopes
Jesus is Promised
Isaiah 9:6

TODAY'S KEY QUESTION

What are you hoping for?

Host enters . . .

TODAY'S BOTTOM LINE

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LARGE GROUP

ENGAGE KIDS' HEARTS THROUGH A DYNAMIC AND INTERACTIVE BIBLE STORY, WORSHIP, AND PRAYER EXPERIENCE IN A LARGE GROUP SETTING.

AUDIO: PLAY HIGH-ENERGY MUSIC AS STUDENTS ENTER.

SLIDE: THEME

OPTIONAL VIDEO (MEDIA PACKAGE): THEME LOOP

OPTIONAL VIDEO (MEDIA PACKAGE): COUNTDOWN (30- OR 60-SECOND VERSION)

OPTIONAL VIDEO (MEDIA PACKAGE): THEME

WELCOME

Host has lots of energy as he or she welcomes everyone to [Name of Environment]. Host is relatable and inviting. Host can talk about something that happened culturally throughout the week like the PS5 launch, the fact that stores have been selling Christmas stuff since Halloween, and so on. Host tells them how excited he or she is that they're there and briefly runs through what they can expect. This is especially helpful for first-time guests to make them feel like they know what's happening.

OPENER

HOST: (With megaphone if you have one)

"Guys! Girls! Kids of varying ages! It is officially the Christmas season, and I can NOT wait to kick off this month here at *Mission*. This month there are no gimmicks, no metaphors, no added bells and whistles—it's Simply Christmas. It's going to be Christmas for four weeks in here!

Slide: Life APP

Christmas - Celebrating Jesus, God's greatest gift

"I don't know if you're like me, but I'm about done with the surprises the year 2020 has given us. Pandemic? No, thank you. Murder hornets? Yeah, no. Earthquakes at Yellowstone, hurricanes in the Gulf, alien radio blasts from deep space? No. No. No—but that last one might have been interesting."

"The whole 'no school' thing was fine for a while, but I'm guessing you got pretty sick of looking at your friends on a screen. Plus trying to have your parents help you with math was an epic fail."

"Yeah. 2020. I'm done. Thanks. Check, please. I'm ready for a different kind



PRELUDE

SOCIAL

STORY

WORSHIP

GROUPS

HOME

25 MINUTES

10 MINUTES

of surprise, right? A better kind of surprise. The gift-opening-on-Christmas-morning kind of surprise! Who's with me? Awesome. Let's play Christmas Surprise!"

SLIDE: CHRISTMAS SURPRISE! TITLE

Christmas surprise box

Invite someone up to open the Christmas Surprise Box!

Choose a kid to come on stage. Let the kid open the box and reveal the two spray cans of whipped cream. Have the kid return to his/her seat.

"It's whipped cream! (to the kid who opened the box) Can you guess what we're doing with this? (Open your mouth as if you're going to spray the whipped cream inside.) Just kidding! We've got a really fun game for two of our LEADERS to play today—a little friendly competition between the boys and girls.

Bring up the two pre-selected leaders—one male and one female. Give each of them a poncho, a shower cap, and goggles.

"Boys, you're cheering for [leader's name], and girls, you're cheering for [leader's name]. Each of our contestants have an empty plate and a plate with lots of Christmas gumdrops on it. They'll have one minute to pick the gumdrops out of the whipped cream (hold up whipped cream) and put them on the empty plate. But just to make it interesting, they have to put their arms behind their backs and use only their mouths.

"Let me take a minute to add the whipped cream. Contestants, please turn around while I do this part. No peeking!

While the contestants' backs are turned, add some broccoli to the plates with the gumdrops. Give the "shhhh" sign so the kids are in on the gag. Cover the gumdrop/broccoli plates with whipped cream. Then, invite the contestants to turn around.

"Okay, contestants! We've got a bit of a treasure hunt! Let's see how many gumdrops you can move to the other plate in one minute. Are you ready? Three . . . two . . . one . . . GO!

AUDIO: FUN CHRISTMAS MUSIC

OPTIONAL VIDEO (MEDIA PACKAGE): COUNTDOWN (60-SECOND VERSION)

Set a timer on your phone for 60 seconds.

Comment on the action, announcing every time a contestant successfully gets a gumdrop (or piece of broccoli) onto the other plate.

When time's up, count the number of gumdrops for each contestant and declare the winner.

OPTIONAL VIDEO (MEDIA PACKAGE): THEME LOOP

"Well, that was incredibly impressive! Great job! Let's give our amazing leaders a hand as they head back to get cleaned up.

Contestants exit to clean up.

"Now, let's all get on our feet so we can sing, dance, and worship God together.



WEEK
ONE
DECEMBER 2020

LARGE GROUP

K-6

PRELUDE

SOCIAL

STORY

WORSHIP

GROUPS

HOME

10 MINUTES

WORSHIP

Worship Leaders enter as Host exits.

WORSHIP LEADER: "Happy December, friends! What an exciting time of year. I thought we'd kick things off with

Song 1 - ALIVE AGAIN

Song 2 - GOOD GRACE

APPLICATION

COMMUNICATOR: "These things that Isaiah said, hundreds of years before, a promise fulfilled. Through Isaiah God promised that He would send a Savior, someone who would rescue us forever. God's promises came true when He sent Jesus."

"Because God was faithful to keep His promises in the past, we can have hope—not just a wish—that God will keep His promises in the future. Did you know that God has made a lot of promises to you? Both for now and the future? Like He promises to be with you all the time. And He promises that He is always working for your good, no matter what. You can know that God will keep these promises, too, because He always keeps His promises.

"This year Christmas might look a bit different. But you never know—2020 isn't over. Who knows what thrills this year could send our way before switching over the calendar year? But here's the truth: Jesus, the promise, is something you can celebrate no matter what's happening. You can still place your hope in Jesus.

LANDING

COMMUNICATOR: "As you head to Small Groups, think about this question:

SLIDE: KEY QUESTION

"What are you hoping for? What is the big ask? What is the miracle you are hoping for? Maybe it's something big, or maybe it's just something small. We can have HOPE when we put our trust in God. You'll dig deeper in your Small Group, but before we head there, let's pray."

PRAY

STORYTELLER: "Dear God, thank You for showing us how You've always given HOPE to Your people. You've always been there to help us, from the very beginning. You made a special promise to send a Savior—and You kept Your promise when You sent Jesus. Thank You for ALWAYS keeping your promises! Please help us trust You and put our hope in You. We love You, and we pray these things in Jesus' name. Amen."