



WEEK
THREE
DECEMBER 2020

SMALL GROUP
PRETEEN

PRELUDE

SOCIAL

STORY

WORSHIP

GROUPS

HOME

PROVIDING TIME FOR FUN INTERACTION
15 MINUTES

MADE TO CONNECT

an activity that invites kids to share and collaborate with others while growing their understanding



Before kids arrive, pray for patience today as you lead your group and wisdom for how to balance the craziness and excitement about the season with the truth you're hoping kids grasp this week. Pray that your kids would know how much God loves them and how He proved that by sending His Son into the world as the best Christmas gift ever!

TODAY'S BIBLE STORY

How He Loves

Jesus is Born
Luke 2:1-7

JUST FOR FUN: Christmas Chat

WHAT YOU NEED: none

WHAT YOU DO:

- Today's Christmas Chat:
 - What are you excited about this week?
 - Tell us about your Christmas traditions. Does your family exchange gifts?
 - Do you personally buy or make anything special for your family or friends?
 - What about your friend group? Do you exchange gifts with them?

TODAY'S KEY QUESTION

What are you giving this Christmas?

TODAY'S BOTTOM LINE

God loved us so much that He gave us a Savior.

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.



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CREATING A SAFE PLACE TO CONNECT
25 MINUTES

MADE TO EXPLORE

an activity that extends learning through hands-on experimentation and discovery



TAKE A SNAPSHOT

[LIVE FOR GOD | APPLICATION ACTIVITY]

WHAT YOU NEED: A stocking or wrapped box filled with mystery items and party favors (one per kid - to take home), and one glove per kid
***If using a box, have a hole large enough for kids to stick hand in, but small enough they cannot see inside the box

WHAT YOU DO:

- **Pass** the stocking/box to the kid on your left.
- **Let** them feel around the whole stocking/box and then pick one item to focus on.
- They can shake it, feel it, etc. and try to guess what it is (without taking it out of the stocking/box or peeking inside).
- If they guess correctly, they get to keep it!
- **Give** everyone a chance to guess a mystery gift inside the stocking/box.
- If time runs out, **hand** out the remaining gifts to any kids who didn't guess their item correctly.
- Otherwise, **continue** passing the stocking/box around and letting kids guess until everyone has a prize to take home.
- **Ask:** Why is it so fun to receive a gift, even if it's a small gift?

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DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

[TALK ABOUT GOD | BIBLE STORY REVIEW]

WHAT YOU NEED: No supplies needed

WHAT YOU DO:

Ask:

- What's the gift you're most excited about giving this

year?

- What could you give that isn't a "thing"?
- Why did God send Jesus for us? Why did we need a Savior?
- When you think about the fact that God gave Jesus for you, what does it make you feel? What does it make you want to do? Why?
- How or when do you feel God's love for you? When is it hard for you to feel God's love?
- Can you explain how much God loves you? How do you know God loves you?

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MADE TO MOVE

an activity that increases the oxygen in the brain and taps into the energy in the body



VERSE TO TAKE WITH YOU

[HEAR FROM GOD | MEMORY VERSE ACTIVITY]

WHAT YOU NEED: "Gifts Memory Verse Cards" Activity Page, Bibles, two rolls of tape, butcher paper tree from week 1

WHAT YOU DO:

- **Look** up 2 Corinthians 9:15 as a group.
- **Engage** kids in a brief discussion about the verse:
 - What does the verse say?
 - What are we thanking God for?
- **Divide** the group into two teams and line them up at the opposite side of the room, across from the butcher paper wall Christmas tree from week 1.
- **Give** each group a set of memory verse cards, Bibles, and tape.
 - Teams will race to look up each verse.
 - On the back of the card, they'll write a brief description of the gift the verse is about.
 - Then they'll run down and hang it on the tree with the tape, and race back to do the next one.
 - The first group to get all of the gifts on the tree wins!

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MADE TO PLAY

an activity that encourages learning through following guidelines and/or working as a group



MAKE IT PERSONAL WITH PRAYER [PRAY TO GOD | PRAYER ACTIVITY]

WHAT YOU NEED: Prayer with blanks to be filled in, candy "word bank" and/or printed images of candy

WHAT YOU DO:

- **Lay** the prayer on the floor and point out the blank/missing words.
- Instruct kids to work together to use the candy (or printed images) provided to fill in the blanks.
 - *Note: If some of the candy is missing and you don't have printed images, let kids draw the missing candy once they figure out what should go in the blank.*
- When the prayer is complete, **read** it aloud and pray the prayer together.
- Completed prayer should read:
 - Dear God, Thank you for your (Mr. Goodbar®) gift. Jesus is the ultimate example of God's love for us. Thank you for sending the angel to visit Mary to tell her that her Son would be our (Lifesavers®). Even though Mary and Joseph found themselves in a (Crunch® bar) when it was time for Jesus to be born and there were (Zero® bar) rooms available for them, you had a plan, God! And just like you had a plan then, you have a plan for us now. Your plans are (Mounds) better than our plans! Thank you that we can trust you no matter what. We know that Jesus, the savior of the world, is better than any (PayDay®) we could ever receive! Life would be un- (gummy bears) able without you! We (mint) so much to you, God, and you loved us so much that you gave us a Savior. And today we get to celebrate because (Almond Joy) to the world, the LORD has come! The real meaning of Christmas is always something to celebrate! Thank you for your gift of Jesus, Amen!
- Let kids choose a candy to eat as they wait for adults to pick up!

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