



WEEK
ONE
DECEMBER 2021

SMALL GROUP
K-3

PRELUDE SOCIAL STORY WORSHIP GROUPS HOME

PROVIDING TIME FOR FUN INTERACTION
15 MINUTES

MADE TO CREATE

an activity that explores ideas through the process of drawing, building, designing, and problem-solving



Before kids arrive, take a few moments to pray for them. Ask God to help kids understand that being content is a skill that can be learned, no matter how much or how little they have in this physical life. Pray they will realize that God can help them have contented hearts and attitudes, no matter their circumstances.

TODAY'S BIBLE STORY

Nine Months

Elizabeth & Zechariah
Luke 1:5-25, 57-66

EARLY ARRIVER

WHAT YOU NEED: Offering container and Christmas card supplies

WHAT YOU DO:

- Welcome each kid to Small Group with a hearty "Merry Christmas!"
- Invite kids who brought an offering to put it in the offering container.
- Set out the construction paper, coloring materials, stickers, etc.
- Invite the kids to make Christmas cards for anyone they like—family, friends, church leaders, people in the community, nursing home or hospital residents, etc.
- As the kids work, ask them questions about the upcoming holidays:
 - What do you look forward to?
 - What do you hope to give this year?

TODAY'S BOTTOM LINE

**Celebrate because
God can do anything.**

MONTHLY MEMORY VERSE

**"God so loved the world that
he gave his one and only Son.
Anyone who believes in him will
not die but will have eternal life."
John 3:16, NIV**

MONTHLY LIFE APP

**Christmas—Celebrating Jesus,
God's greatest gift**

BASIC TRUTH

I can trust God no matter what.





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PRELUDE SOCIAL STORY WORSHIP GROUPS HOME

**CREATING A SAFE PLACE TO CONNECT
25 MINUTES**

MADE TO MOVE

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



LIGHT IT UP!

[TALK ABOUT GOD | BIBLE STORY REVIEW]

WHAT YOU NEED: "Light it Up!" Activity Page cards and masking tape Christmas trees

WHAT YOU DO:

- Separate your group into teams.
- Give each team a set of cards from the "Light It Up!" Activity Page.
- Hand out a picture to each team member.
- Instruct the kids not to switch pictures.
- Guide the kids to run, one at a time, to their Christmas tree and put their "light" on the tree.
- Encourage the kids to leave at least one space between each of their pictures.
- After all of the "lights" are on their "tree," if any of the pictures are out of order, kids can take turns running up and moving one picture.
- The first team with a Christmas tree that has all its lights in order, wins!

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WHAT YOU SAY:

"These are some snazzy looking trees! Most Christmas trees have lights, like these, but what else do we usually put on trees? (*Invite a kid to respond.*) Right, ornaments! Sometimes ornaments remind us of something special—who has a special ornament at their house they'd like to tell us about? (*Let a few kids share; try to keep it to just a couple of minutes.*)

"Elizabeth and Zechariah didn't have a Christmas tree, but I'm sure they kept some special things to remind them of all the important events that happened to them that year. (*Point out the shapes on the "Light It Up!" pictures as you talk about them.*) Zechariah met an angel, and he couldn't speak afterwards. Elizabeth was finally expecting a baby after all those years. Then they had a little boy who they named John. And who was baby John related to? (*Invite answers.*) That's right! Jesus.

"Even before Christmas celebrations started, before the star and the angels and all the excitement, God was working on His rescue plan. He started with an unexpected mom and dad, and proved that there was nothing God couldn't do.

"At Christmas, and all year, you can **celebrate because God can do anything.**"



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PRELUDE SOCIAL STORY WORSHIP GROUPS HOME

**CREATING A SAFE PLACE TO CONNECT
25 MINUTES**

MADE TO EXPLORE

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



FLOATING TINSEL

[LIVE FOR GOD | APPLICATION ACTIVITY]

WHAT YOU NEED: Balloons and tinsel strands

WHAT YOU DO:

- Invite the kids to sit in a circle.
- Ask, "What are some things that seem impossible?"
 - It's okay if they give silly suggestions such as flying like a bird or being invisible.
 - Prompt them with questions to get them to think of situations in their own lives that they feel are hard or impossible.
 - Some follow-up questions:
 - What worries you in your life right now?
 - What makes you sad or scared?
 - What do you wish you could change in your life right now?
- Hold up a strand of tinsel.
- Ask, "Do you think it's possible to make this piece of tinsel float in the air without blowing it or touching it?"
- Let the kids offer a few ideas, then begin the demonstration by following the steps below.
 - Give each kid an inflated balloon.
 - Ask them to rub the balloon on their sweater or shirt for about a minute to create static electricity.
 - Show kids how to lay the strand of tinsel on top of the balloon and watch what happens.
 - If the tinsel fails to float, ask the kids to rub the balloon a bit longer on their clothes to create more static electricity.

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WHAT YOU SAY:

"Making tinsel float in the air sounded impossible, but once you knew what to do, it wasn't impossible at all. Keep this tinsel trick in mind the next time you have a hard time trusting that God can do big things, solve tricky problems, or fix impossible situations. Something that seems impossible for us is never impossible for Him.

"What are some things you can do when you need help trusting God in a hard situation? (*Pause for responses.*) When you find yourself in a situation that feels impossible, it often helps to talk with a parent, a church leader, or a trusted adult who can pray and encourage you.

"Whether a tough subject at school, a problem at home, a disagreement with a friend, or any problem that feels too big to handle—God is always bigger than our biggest fear or problem. Nothing is ever impossible for Him. So we can **celebrate because God can do anything.**"





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PRELUDE SOCIAL STORY WORSHIP GROUPS HOME

CREATING A SAFE PLACE TO CONNECT
25 MINUTES

MADE TO REFLECT

an activity that creates space for personal processing and application



PRAY AND DISMISS [PRAY TO GOD | PRAYER ACTIVITY]

WHAT YOU NEED: No supplies needed.

WHAT YOU DO:

- Use the conversation below as a guide to lead kids in prayer.

TODAY'S BIBLE STORY

Nine Months

Elizabeth & Zechariah
Luke 1:5-25, 57-66

WHAT YOU SAY:

"Zechariah and Elizabeth were too old to have children. They were as old as GRANDPARENTS! But God can do ANYTHING, and God gave them a son! God can do anything in your life, too. He is BIG enough and POWERFUL enough to help you in ANY situation. So this week, remember to **celebrate because God can do ANYTHING.**

TODAY'S BOTTOM LINE

Celebrate because God can do anything.

"Dear God, I praise You because You can do ANYTHING. You are AMAZING and WONDERFUL and POWERFUL, and we love You SO much. This week, help us remember and CELEBRATE that You can do anything. Amen."

As adults arrive to pick up, encourage kids to tell them today's **celebrate because God can do anything.**

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