



WEEK  
**TWO**  
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. Pray for those who might visit your group for the first time. Ask God to help kids know what's possible with the power of God! Pray that this joy will bring comfort to the kids for whom Christmas is not always a fun, exciting, and magical time of year.*

### TODAY'S BIBLE STORY

**Tidings of Comfort and Joy**  
Gabriel Appears to Mary  
Luke 1:26-56

### EARLY ARRIVER

**WHAT YOU NEED:** "Christmas Counting" Activity Pages, offering container, pencils, and markers

**WHAT YOU DO:**

- Show kids where they can place their offerings.
- Invite each kid to choose a "Christmas Counting" Activity Page.
- Guide kids to complete the dot-to-dots first with their fingers and then with pencils or markers.
- Invite kids to color their pictures when they're finished.

### TODAY'S BOTTOM LINE

**Celebrate because  
God has a plan.**

### 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



### SCRUNCH

[TALK ABOUT GOD | BIBLE STORY REVIEW]

WHAT YOU NEED: Bible and bright flashlight

#### WHAT YOU DO:

- Direct the kids to form a line in front of you.
- Turn out the lights (if possible), and turn on your flashlight.
- Explain that you will point the flashlight at the feet of one of the kids then ask them to answer a question about the Bible story.
  - Share that if a kid doesn't know the answer, they can ask for a hint or pass to someone else in line.
- Ask one of the questions below.
- After the question is answered correctly, hold the flashlight at your shoulder level with the beam shining in front of the line of kids.
- Challenge all of the kids to scrunch down and walk under the light beam without it touching them.
- Choose another kid to answer a question.
- Once the question is answered correctly, hold the flashlight a little lower for kids to pass under.
- Continue until everyone has answered at least one question.
- Lower the flashlight beam a little more with each round until kids can no longer pass under the light without it shining on them.

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#### Review Questions

- Who came to visit Mary unexpectedly? (*an angel*)
- What was the name of the angel who spoke to Mary? (*Gabriel*)
- Who was Mary engaged to? (*Joseph*)
- In what town was Mary living when the angel came to her? (*Nazareth*)
- How did Mary feel at first when Gabriel came to visit her? (*afraid*)
- What did Gabriel say would happen to Mary? (*she would have a baby*)
- How did Mary respond to Gabriel's message? (*At first she was scared, but she wanted to do whatever God wanted*)
- What did Gabriel tell Mary to name her baby? (*Jesus*)
- What happened when Elizabeth heard Mary's voice? (*the baby inside of her jumped for joy*)
- How long did Mary stay with Elizabeth? (*three months*)
- What did Mary do to celebrate God's plan? (*she praised God with a song*)

#### WHAT YOU SAY:

"God's plans are amazing, aren't they? His plans are bigger and better than any plans we may make for ourselves. Even our best plans sometimes fail. But we can **celebrate because God has a plan**, and it will NEVER fail. That's because God's plan is the perfect plan. We can trust Him, no matter what. When things don't go the way we want or expect, it helps to remember that God sees everything that's going on—way more than we can see. He had a big plan for Mary, and He has big plans for your life, as well."



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### \*ORIGAMI CANDLE

[LIVE FOR GOD | APPLICATION ACTIVITY]

**WHAT YOU NEED:** "Origami Candle" Activity Page, pre-cut strips of heavy paper, scissors, and glue

**WHAT YOU DO:**

- Give each kid an "Origami Candle" Activity Page.
- Instruct the kids to choose two pre-cut strips of paper.
- Direct kids to follow the steps outlined on the activity page to make an "Origami Candle."
- Instruct the kids to cut out and attach the flame by folding the edge and gluing it to the top of the candle.
- Help kids as needed.
- When finished, remind kids of today's Bottom Line, **celebrate because God has a plan.**
- Direct the kids' attention to the manger and the cross on the flame. Ask:
  - How do you think the manger fit into God's plan?
  - How do you think the cross fit into God's plan?

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**WHAT YOU SAY:**

"God's plan to send Jesus began a long time before the day we now call Christmas. God had promised to send a Savior—a rescuer—who would take the punishment that should have been ours. From the manger to the cross, it was all part of God's great plan to offer forgiveness to anyone who wants it. **Celebrate because God has a plan**, and it's the best plan of all.

"This week, shine the light of God's love to others by showing your candle to someone and sharing how Jesus is part of God's plan for us." **[Make it Personal] (Share one way that you will also try to do this.)**





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### 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 into a responsive prayer.

### TODAY'S BIBLE STORY

**Tidings of Comfort and Joy**  
Gabriel Appears to Mary  
Luke 1:26-56

**WHAT YOU SAY:**

"From the very beginning, God had a plan to send His Son, Jesus, to be our Savior. And one day, Mary learned that she was part of that plan! God's plan for her was bigger and better than she could IMAGINE. God chose her to carry His Son into the world! Wow! God's plans are GOOD! Let's pray.

*(As you pray, guide kids to respond with today's Bottom Line when you pause.)*

### TODAY'S BOTTOM LINE

**Celebrate because God has a plan.**

**SGL:** "Dear God, You always have a plan."

**KIDS:** **"Celebrate because God has a plan."**

**SGL:** "From the very beginning, You had a plan to send Your Son, Jesus."

**KIDS:** **"Celebrate because God has a plan."**

**SGL:** "You had a plan to send Jesus to be our Savior."

**KIDS:** **"Celebrate because God has a plan."**

**SGL:** "Thank You, God, for sending Jesus."

**KIDS:** **"Celebrate because God has a plan."**

**SGL:** "Thank You, God, that we can celebrate with Christmas!"

**SGL AND KIDS:** **"Celebrate because God has a plan."**

As adults arrive to pick up, encourage kids to tell them today's Bottom Line.  
**Celebrate because God has a plan.**

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