

PRELUDE	SOCIAL	WORSHIP	STORY	GROUPS	HOME	
		10 MINUTES				

LARGE GROUP

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

WORSHIP

WHAT YOU NEED: Paperclip "Memory Verse Card" in your Bible at Isaiah 9:6, NCV. You need a music player and this month's worship song, "What Christmas Is About," which is included in your monthly files. The dance moves video for "What Christmas Is About" is available on OrangeKidsMusic.com or in your media package if you subscribe. You also need "Christmas Party," which is available at OrangeKidsMusic.com, iTunes®, and Spotify®. The dance moves video for this song is available at OrangeKidsMusic.com.

WORSHIP LEADER: "Yay, it's Christmas! We can celebrate because **God gave** us Jesus! How do we know **God loves us?**"

CHILDREN AND WORSHIP LEADER: "God gave us Jesus!"

Lead children in singing "What Christmas Is About," this month's worship song.

WORSHIP LEADER: "So fun! I love celebrating Christmas with you! Christmas is special because of Jesus! **How do we know God loves us?**"

CHILDREN AND WORSHIP LEADER: "God gave us Jesus."

WORSHIP LEADER: "That's right! **God gave us Jesus!** The Bible teaches us that 'God has given (*point up*) a son (*rock the baby*) to us (*thumbs to chest*),' Isaiah 9:6. (*Open hands like a book*.) That means **God loves me**. Let's say our verse together.

Lead the children to say the verse with the motions.

"God gave a Son to us, and His name is Jesus! That's why we celebrate. Grab your family and your friends, tell the world what Christmas is. It's the day God sent us His Son! **How do we know God loves us?**"

CHILDREN AND WORSHIP LEADER: "God gave us Jesus."

WORSHIP LEADER: "You've got it! Sing this with me!

Lead children in singing "Christmas Party."

"That was awesome. Thanks for worshipping with me, friends!"

BIBLE STORY

The wise men come to see God's Son. ("W" is for Wise Men.)

THE WISE MEN MATTHEW 2:1-2, 9-11

MEMORY VERSE

"God has given a son to us."

ISAIAH 9:6, NCV

KEY QUESTION

How do we know God loves us?

BOTTOM LINE

God gave us Jesus.

BASIC TRUTH

God loves me.



INTRO SKETCH

WHAT YOU NEED: Small table, Christmas decorations (*including the angel topper and Baby Jesus ornament on the tree*), gift bag, tissue paper, alphabet puzzle, Christmas neck tie, Christmas socks, costume butterfly wings, and a toy waffle

WHAT YOU DO: Set the small table in the middle of the story area. Put the nativity set for Outro Sketch on the table. Place the alphabet puzzle in the gift bag with the "W" in the bottom of the bag so it is "missing." Put tissue paper on top of the puzzle. Place the butterfly wings and toy waffle on the floor by the table. The host will wear the neck tie and socks.

The host enters wearing the tie and socks, carrying the gift bag.

10 MINUTES

HOST: "Hi, friends! Welcome to [your environment's name]! I'm [your name], and this (hold up the gift bag) is a present my neighbor just gave me. It's a special Christmas present! I can't wait to see what it is!

Put the gift bag on the table. Pull the tissue paper out then the puzzle. Hold it up.

"It's an alphabet puzzle! (*Study the puzzle*.) This is so great! Every single letter is right here . . . uh-oh, wait a second. The letter W is missing! (*Look up at the children*.) There are so many words we can't make without the letter W!

Slowly lay the puzzle down on the table then pick up the butterfly wings from the floor. Put on the wings.

"Words like . . . WINGS! 'W' is for WINGS!

Flutter around the story area for a few seconds then stop by the table to take off the wings.

"And without the letter W, I can't have my favorite breakfast.

Pick up the toy waffle and pretend to eat it.

"WAFFLES! 'W' is for waffles! I think waffles taste SO yummy!

Lay the waffle down and pick up the puzzle to look at it again.

"This puzzle really is fun, but I don't know what to do about the W. (*Look around*.) Maybe the W fell out when my neighbor handed me the puzzle. I'll go look for the W while you listen to a Bible story. See you later!"

Host exits. carrying the puzzle, wings, and waffle. The gift bag with the W puzzle piece inside stays on the table



BIBLE STORY

WHAT YOU NEED: Bible, poster board, scissors, glue, silver glitter, tape, and a yardstick; Optional Story Images

WHAT YOU DO:

BEFORE THE STORY: Cut a large star out of poster board. Cover the star with silver glitter. Tape or glue the glitter star to the yardstick. Lay the star on the floor by the table from Intro Sketch.

The storyteller enters carrying a Bible.

STORYTELLER: "Well hello, everyone! I'm [your name], and it's great to see you! Hearing what [Host's name] was saying reminds me that I still have a few gifts to give to friends, too. I need to make sure I deliver them today!

"That's the great thing about Christmas. We can keep celebrating that **God gave us Jesus**, even after Christmas! Every day is a great day to celebrate Jesus!

"Which is what our Bible story (*hold up the Bible*) is about today! (*Lay the Bible open on the table*.) It's about some people who celebrated Jesus AFTER He was born; and I can't wait to tell you all about it!

(Option: Display Story Image W4 01)

"This part of the true story of Christmas begins with wise men. 'W' is for Wise Man. Everyone say, '"W" is for Wise Men."

CHILDREN AND STORYTELLER: "'W' is for Wise Men!"

STORYTELLER: "The wise men knew that God was going to send someone very special, and they wanted to see Him. One night, while the wise men waited, they saw a very special star in the sky.

Hold up the big glitter star on a stick.

"When the wise men saw the special star, they knew they needed to follow it.

(Option: Display Story Image W4 02)

"Stand up everyone! We're going to walk in place and pretend to follow the special star with the wise men.

Walk around the story area with the star and encourage the children to keep "walking" while they "follow" the star.

"Walk, walk, walk. Keep looking at the star and follow it. Walk, walk, walk . . . Finally, the wise men saw the star stop. (Stop walking.)

"So they stopped. Okay everyone, you can sit down now.

Pause for the children to sit back down.

(Option: Display Story Image W4 03)



"The star had stopped over a house. Who do you think lived in that house? (*Pause.*) Yes! Jesus lived in that house! When the wise men saw Jesus, they knew He was the very special person they were looking for. They knew Jesus was the one God sent to show how much He loves everyone.

(Option: Display Story Image W4 04)

"The wise men bowed down and worshipped Jesus and gave Him their very best gifts. Then they celebrated Jesus!

"That is such an awesome part of the Christmas story! The wise men knew **God gave us Jesus**, and now we know **God gave us Jesus**, because He loves us so much!

"Tell me, how do we know God loves us?"

CHILDREN AND STORYTELLER: "God gave us Jesus!"

STORYTELLER: "One more time! How do we know God loves us?"

CHILDREN AND STORYTELLER: "God gave us Jesus!"

STORYTELLER: "Yay, **God gave us Jesus!** Okay friends, it's time to pray. Let's close our eyes and talk to God together."

PRAYER

STORYTELLER: "Dear God, thank You for loving us so much that You gave us Jesus. Thank You that we get to hear the true story of Christmas and we can worship Jesus every day, just like the wise men did. We love You, God. In Jesus' name, amen.

"I'll see you next time. Bye!"

The Storyteller exits with the Bible and star on a stick.



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OUTRO SKETCH

What You Need: Gift bag with the W puzzle piece inside and nativity set with wise men already on the table

The Host enters smiling.

HOST: "Wow! The wise men followed a special star to find Jesus. God loves us so much that He gave us Jesus, and we can celebrate Jesus every day!

"I think I got the story. Did you get it? (*Pause*.) If you did, give me two thumbs up (*hold up two thumbs*) and say, 'Got it!' (*Pause*.) Get it?"

CHILDREN AND HOST: "Got it!"

HOST: "Good! Hey, there's one more place I haven't looked for the missing letter W.

"I hear something!

Pick up the gift bag and shake it.

Look inside and pull out the 'W' puzzle piece.

"Look! It's the missing letter W! Now we have the letter W for . . . (pick up a wise man form the nativity set.) WISE MEN! 'W' is for WISE MEN. Say that with me!"

CHILDREN AND HOST: "'W' is for WISE MEN!"

HOST: "I hope you have a great day celebrating Jesus! See you next time! Bye!"

The Host exits with the gift bag, leaving the nativity set on the table.