



WEEK
TWO
DECEMBER 2021

SMALL GROUP
PRETEEN

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, pray that you would have an amazing time with them in Small Group today. Ask God for patience as the kids get more and more excited about all of the Christmas celebrations around them, and ask Him for creativity to channel that excitement into incredible conversations.

TODAY'S BIBLE STORY

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

JUST FOR FUN

WHAT YOU NEED: Offering container, a piece of garland

WHAT YOU DO:

- Invite kids to put their offerings in the offering container as they arrive.
- Gather kids in a circle.
- Set a piece of garland in the center of the circle.
- Challenge kids to take turns "drawing" an object with the garland. (i.e., placing the garland in the shape of an object).
- Let the group guess what the artist is "drawing."
- Some ideas in case kids need inspiration: a star, a Christmas tree, a snowman, etc.

TODAY'S KEY QUESTION

When has something worked out differently than you expected?

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 IMAGINE

an activity that promotes empathy and facilitates concrete application through role-play and reenactment



BIBLE STORY EXTENSION

[TALK ABOUT GOD | BIBLE STORY REVIEW]

WHAT YOU NEED: "Mary's Song" Activity Page, markers, Bibles

WHAT YOU DO:

- Review the story by saying, "An angel showed up in Nazareth . . ." and then encourage the group to fill in the details.
- Prompt kids by asking, "What next?" (*Allowing kids to retell the story in their own words will give you an idea what "stuck" from Large Group and provide an opportunity to fill in details by asking guiding questions.*)
- Remind kids that Luke recorded a song that Mary sang during her visit with Elizabeth (Luke 1:46-55).
- Give each kid a "Mary's Song" Activity Page.
- Read the song aloud.
- Ask:
 - Why is Mary singing a song to God?
 - Do you think this song is a celebration song? Why or why not?
 - What does Mary say about God in her song? Tell kids to underline what Mary says about God in her song. Allow kids to share what they underlined.
 - Mary's song ends with "He has done it just as he promised to our people of long ago." What was part of God's plan from long ago that He promised?
- Give kids a few minutes to write (on the back of the Activity Page) a song or poem celebrating God who He is and for what He has done.
- Give kids the opportunity to share or perform their songs/poems.

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25 MINUTES

MADE TO CONNECT

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



DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

[TALK ABOUT GOD | BIBLE STORY REVIEW]

WHAT YOU NEED: No supplies needed

WHAT YOU DO:

Ask:

- What do we know about God’s plan? How is Jesus part of God’s plan?
- When is it hard to remember to celebrate that God has a plan for us to be with Him now and forever?
- How can we remember to celebrate that God’s plan is so much bigger and better than we can imagine?

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

MADE TO REFLECT

an activity that creates space for personal processing and application



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

WHAT YOU NEED: "Light Bulb Cards" from Social, scissors, markers, hole punch, string/yarn, *Optional:* a Christmas tree or other way to display the "Lights"

WHAT YOU DO:

- Give kids a "Light Bulb Card" and ask them to cut out the light bulb.
- Instruct kids to write on the light bulb a prayer thanking God for His plan.
- Encourage kids to use John 3:16 as a guide for their prayer.
- Instruct kids to use the hole punch to make a hole at the top of their light bulb.
- Help kids create a string of "celebration lights" by tying their light bulb onto a long piece of string.
- Space out the light bulbs along the string.
- Encourage the kids to take turns reading what they wrote out loud.
- Place the string of lights on a Christmas tree or tape them to the wall, like last week.
- Save any extra cards to be used next week.
- Close in prayer.

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WHAT YOU SAY:

"God, what a story you have given us! The Bible tells of Your love for us starting at the very beginning, and each story points us to You and Your plan. Thank You for loving us so much You planned a way we could be with You now and forever. Thank You for giving us Jesus—Your greatest gift! We can trust You to keep Your promise. Remind us every day Your plan is perfect! Amen!"

