



WEEK
THREE
DECEMBER 2021

SMALL GROUP
PRETEEN

PRELUDE

SOCIAL

STORY

WORSHIP

GROUPS

HOME

PROVIDING TIME FOR FUN INTERACTION
15 MINUTES

MADE TO PLAY

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



Before kids arrive, pray that your kids would begin to grasp more than they ever have before the significance of what we celebrate at Christmas. Ask God to reveal himself to them in a new way this Christmas, and thank Him for using you in the process!

TODAY'S BIBLE STORY

Because of Christmas Day
Jesus Is Born/Shepherds Visit
Luke 2:1-20

TODAY'S KEY QUESTION

How are you celebrating Christmas this year?

TODAY'S BOTTOM LINE

Celebrate because God sent a Savior.

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.

JUST FOR FUN

WHAT YOU NEED: Offering container, a gift box, mobile device or timer

WHAT YOU DO:

- Invite kids to put their offerings in the offering container as they arrive.
- Gather kids in a circle.
- Give a gift box to a kid.
- When you say, "GO," set a timer and tell kids to pass the gift box around the circle.
- Whoever is holding the gift box when time runs out gets a point.
- Be sure to vary the time you set the alarm for each round.
- Play several rounds.
- Declare the kid with the least amount of points the winner.
- *Optional: Choose a category and before passing the gift box, kids have to say something related to the category.*
 - *Potential category examples: Christmas movies, Christmas decorations, examples of gifts people give, etc.*



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PRELUDE SOCIAL STORY WORSHIP GROUPS HOME

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

MADE TO CREATE

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



VERSE TO TAKE WITH YOU

[HEAR FROM GOD | MEMORY VERSE
ACTIVITY] **WHAT YOU NEED:** Yarn, yellow craft sticks, jumbo craft sticks, markers, hot glue dots, Bibles, scissors, mobile device

WHAT YOU DO:

- Tell kids they get to make an ornament to give to someone as a gift.
- Set out the supplies.
- Tell kids to create a star using the five yellow craft sticks. (Let kids draw a star on a sheet of paper to use as a visual aid. Then they can position each craft stick the same way the drawn star's lines are positioned.)
- Help kids apply glue dots to the connection points of the star to secure it together.
- Press firmly as the glue dries.
- Instruct kids to wrap the star with the yellow yarn. Tell them to wrap tightly but not so tightly that they deform the star.
- Using the three different sized jumbo craft sticks, let kids make Mary, Joseph and baby Jesus.
- They can draw a face on the top of the sticks and wrap the bottom half with yarn.
- Provide different colored yarn for each person, using baby blue for Jesus, if possible.
- Using glue dots, help kids attach the people to the star. Tell kids to press firmly until the glue sticks.
- Adhere a loop of yarn to the top point of the star.
- For a visual go to: https://bigfamilyblessings.com/wp-content/uploads/2018/11/2018-11-17_0014-678x1024.jpg
- As kids work, consider . . .
 - Asking: Who are you making this ornament for?
 - Read Luke 2:10-11 and lead kids in a discussion on what the verses mean.
 - How do you think you would react to seeing an angel at night?
 - What was the good news?
 - Who was the good news for?
- What are you most looking forward to about Christmas?

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**CREATING A SAFE PLACE TO CONNECT
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:

- Was there something new you learned about the first Christmas?
- How do you celebrate Christmas?
- After the shepherds saw Jesus, they told everyone what they had seen. Is talking about Jesus a form of celebration? Why or why not?
- Why is it important to celebrate Jesus' birth?

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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," scissors, markers,
string/yarn, hole punch, Optional: a Christmas tree or other
way to display the "String of Lights"

WHAT YOU DO:

- Give kids a "Light Bulb Card" and tell them to cut out the light bulb on the card.
- Instruct kids to write a prayer thanking God for the good news of Jesus' birth.
- Encourage kids to imagine they are a shepherd telling someone what happened that night in Bethlehem. What would they want to celebrate with others?
- 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, as in previous weeks.
- Save any extra cards to be used next week.
- Close in prayer.

WHAT YOU SAY:

"God, what a night that must have been! The birth of Jesus! Angels praising You! Shepherds telling everyone what they saw! People being amazed at what they heard! Thank You for the good news! Thank You for sending a Savior. Christmas is all about celebrating Jesus, Your greatest gift to us! This week as we celebrate Christmas with family and friends, remind us why we are celebrating—because a Savior has been born to us and His name is Jesus! Amen!"

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