

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, take a few moments to pray for them. Pray especially for kids whose Christmas season might not be as merry and bright as ours. Ask God to bring comfort to those kids, helping them know that anything is possible with God. Thank God for being a God who does the impossible, including sending a baby boy to be the Savior of the world.

TODAY'S BIBLE STORY

Breath of Heaven
Zechariah/Elizabeth and Gabriel/Mary
Luke 1:5-66

EARLY ARRIVER

WHAT YOU NEED: Offering container and blanket or sheet; *Optional* nametags and markers

WHAT YOU DO:

- Welcome kids by name as they arrive.
- Invite kids who brought an offering to put it in the offering container.
- Ask the kids to take turns sharing their names and something that might surprise others about them.
 - If your group doesn't know each other well, hand out nametags and markers.
 - Invite kids to write their names on them and wear them so their names are visible.
- Divide the group into two teams.
- Instruct each team to sit on the floor facing each other with five feet of space between them.
- Invite one of the kids to help you hold a blanket or sheet between the teams so each team can't see the other team.
- Direct each team to choose a volunteer to stand or sit behind the blanket.
- When ready, count to three and drop the blanket.
- The first kid to correctly identify the name of the other kid scores a point for their team.
- Continue playing until everyone has had a few chances to stand behind the blanket.

TODAY'S BOTTOM LINE

Anything is possible with God.

MONTHLY MEMORY VERSE

Today in the town of David
a Savior has been born to you.
He is the Messiah, the Lord.
Luke 2:11, NIV

MONTHLY VIRTUE

Christmas—Celebrating Jesus,
God's greatest gift

BASIC TRUTH

I can trust God no matter what.

CREATING A SAFE PLACE TO CONNECT
25 MINUTES

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



TODAY'S BIBLE STORY
Breath of Heaven
Zechariah/Elizabeth and Gabriel/Mary
Luke 1:5-66

TODAY'S BOTTOM LINE
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MONTHLY MEMORY VERSE
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***IMPOSSIBLE HELICOPTER**
[LIVE FOR GOD | APPLICATION ACTIVITY]
WHAT YOU NEED: "Impossible Helicopter" Activity Pages; safety scissors; paper clips; and markers or pens

- WHAT YOU DO:**
- Give each kid an "Impossible Helicopter" Activity Page and a pair of safety scissors.
 - Instruct the kids to cut along the dotted lines only.
 - Monitor and provide help as needed because the cuts need to be pretty accurate so the helicopter works properly.
 - Instruct kids to write their names somewhere on the cutout.
 - Show the kids how to fold Section A over along the solid line to the right until it is lying flat.
 - Guide the kids to fold Section B over to the left until it is lying flat. (The sections should be on top of one another—B on top of A.)
 - Instruct the kids to fold the bottom of the overlapped sections as small as they can for two folds.
 - Secure the fold with a medium or large paper clip at the very bottom of the "helicopter."
 - Direct the kids to fold Section C and D away from each other so C is facing up towards the ceiling and D is facing towards the ground. (They are only folding Section C and D enough for them to stick straight out, not all the way down.)
 - The page should now resemble helicopter blades.
 - Guide the kids to think of something that can't fly on its own. (This could be anything—a bus, a cat, you, a bed, a tree. Encourage them to be silly.)
 - Direct them to name their helicopter whatever they thought of and say it out loud.
 - Instruct the kids to hold their helicopters above their heads, release them, and watch them "fly" to the ground. (They should spin like a helicopter landing.)
 - Say, "You just made whatever you thought couldn't fly, fly!"
 - Continue the activity for a few more times.
 - Invite the kids to play with their helicopters and name them silly things that can't fly on their own.

WHAT YOU SAY:
"You guys thought of some pretty silly things that can't fly. A horse definitely can't fly on its own. What were some of the things you thought of and named your helicopter? (Allow kids time to answer.) Those are so silly and made me laugh a lot. In real life, it would be impossible for those things to really fly.

"Can someone tell me something from our Bible story today that if it happened RIGHT NOW, it would seem impossible? (Allow kids time to



CREATING A SAFE PLACE TO CONNECT
25 MINUTES

(IMPOSSIBLE HELICOPTER, CONTINUED)

answer—an angel appearing and talking to you, an older person having a baby, someone who couldn’t talk being able to talk again, etc.)

“Those are all things that seem impossible, but God made them happen. **[Make it Personal]** (Share a kid-appropriate story of a time something felt impossible but God made it happen. Maybe you couldn’t afford your college tuition and God made a way for you to go or there was a friendship that seemed broken but God gave you the grace to forgive.) At the time, I thought this was impossible, but I was reminded that **anything is possible with God.**”

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



3. CHRISTMAS CHEER
[HEAR FROM GOD | MEMORY VERSE ACTIVITY]
WHAT YOU NEED: Bibles

WHAT YOU DO:

- Together, look up and read the memory verse, Luke 2:11, with the navigation tips below.

TODAY'S BIBLE STORY

Breath of Heaven
Zechariah/Elizabeth and
Gabriel/Mary
Luke 1:5-66

***Finding verses with kindergartners:** Guide kids to open Bibles to the marked page. Point to the "Luke" at the top of the page as you say, "Luke." Then guide kids to find the big number 2 on the page. Explain that this is the chapter number. Finally, guide them to look under the big 2 for the little 11; this is the verse number. Tell them to leave their finger on the verse as you read the verse aloud. Then lead everyone to say the verse together.*

TODAY'S BOTTOM LINE

Anything is possible with God.

***Finding verses with 1st graders:** Guide kids to open their Bibles to the table of contents in the front. Hold up a Bible opened to the table of contents to show the kids what the page looks like. When the kids find the table of contents, lead them to find "Luke" in the list under "New Testament." You can help by telling them that Luke starts with the letters L-U. When the kids find Luke, lead them to look at the page number beside the word. Explain that the number tells them on what page they can find Luke. Help the kids find the page. When they find Luke, explain that the big numbers on the page are the chapter numbers. Help them find chapter 2. Explain that the small numbers are verse numbers. Help them find verse 11 in chapter 2.*

MONTHLY MEMORY VERSE

Today in the town of David
a Savior has been born to you.
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- Reread the memory verse out loud together.
- Ask if any of the kids would like to read the verse out loud or if anyone has it memorized, let them say it for the group.
 - Kindergartners and first graders may not be confident enough to read sentences out loud, but it's okay to ask and give them the opportunity to try.
- Divide your kids into two groups.
- Direct the kids to review the memory verse and come up with motions, a song, or a cheer to remember it.
- After they finish, invite each group to show off the motions, song, or cheer for the other group.

MONTHLY VIRTUE

Christmas—Celebrating Jesus,
God's greatest gift

BASIC TRUTH

I can trust God no matter what.

WHAT YOU SAY:

"Those were awesome! You guys are so creative. Today in our Bible story, we heard what happened BEFORE Jesus was born. Have you ever heard any stories from your family about before you were born? (Allow kids time to answer and share.) Our memory verse is all about proclaiming the good news that Jesus was born! We can remember that **anything is possible with God.**"

CREATING A SAFE PLACE TO CONNECT
25 MINUTES

MADE TO REFLECT

an activity that creates space for personal processing and application



4. PRAY AND DISMISS
[PRAY TO GOD | PRAYER ACTIVITY]

WHAT YOU NEED: Helicopters from “Impossible Helicopter” activity

WHAT YOU DO:

- Make sure each kid has their helicopter from earlier.
- Invite the kids to hold their Impossible Helicopter. Remind them that anything is possible with God!
- Close your group time in prayer.

WHAT YOU SAY:

“I had so much fun with you guys today as we learned **anything is possible with God**. Is there something you guys can think of that seems impossible that you would like us to pray for? Maybe you know someone who is sick or someone who needs a home. God wants to hear about the things that are on our hearts, and prayer is the best way to do that!”

(Pray with kids and allow any kid who wants to pray out loud to do so. Remember to pray for kids to remember anything is possible with God. Be sure and pray for any situation the kids brought up when you asked if they knew of a situation that seemed impossible.)

As adults arrive to pick up, invite the kids to show them their Impossible Helicopters and prompt them to say the Bottom Line. **Anything is possible with God.**

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