



PRELUDE SOCIAL WORSHIP STORY GROUPS HOME

**PROVIDING TIME FOR FUN INTERACTION
15 MINUTES**

MADE TO MOVE

an activity that uses a preschooler's natural desire to move to help them learn



1. EMOTION MOTIONS!

WHAT YOU NEED: No supplies needed

WHAT YOU DO:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: Gather children in an open area of the room.

BIBLE STORY

God tells Mary she is going to have His Son, Jesus.

**THE ANGEL AND MARY
LUKE 1:26-33, 38**

MEMORY VERSE

"God loved the world so much that he gave his only Son."

JOHN 3:16, GNT

KEY QUESTION

How do we know God loves us?

BOTTOM LINE

God gave us Jesus.

BASIC TRUTH

God loves me.

DURING THE ACTIVITY: Encourage the children to sing and do the motions to "If You're Happy and You Know It" as you call out different emotions.

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: Introduce Mary from today's Bible story and how Mary received some surprising news

WHAT YOU SAY:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: "Hi, friends! It's so great to see you today! Will you join me? We're going to play a fun game I think you might know, but just a little differently today!"

DURING THE ACTIVITY: "Everyone, spread out and wiggle all your sillies out. (Pause.) We'll sing and do the motions to 'If You're Happy and You Know It!' Do you know that song? (Pause.) Great! I'll add a few new emotions and actions I want you to do. Are you ready? (Pause.) Okay, let's go!

"If you're happy and you know it, clap your hands. (Clap, clap.)
If you're happy and you know it, clap your hands. (Clap, clap.)
If you're happy and you know it, then your face will surely show it. (Smile and point to your cheeks.)
If you're happy and you know it, clap your hands. (Clap, clap.)

"Here is a new emotion.

"If you're scared and you know it, cover your eyes. (Cover eyes.)
If you're scared and you know it, cover your eyes. (Cover eyes.)
If you're scared and you know it, then your face will surely show it. (Cover eyes.)
If you're scared and you know it, cover your eyes. (Cover eyes.)

"If you're happy and you know it, stomp your feet. (Stomp, stomp.)
If you're happy and you know it, stomp your feet. (Stomp, stomp.)
If you're happy and you know it, then your face will surely show it. (Smile and point to your cheeks.)
If you're happy and you know it, stomp your feet. (Stomp, stomp.)

"If you're surprised and you know it, shout, 'Oh, wow!' (Shout, "Oh, wow!")
If you're surprised and you know it, shout, 'Oh, wow!' (Shout, "Oh, wow!")
If you're surprised and you know it, then your face will surely show it. (Hands to the side of your face and mouth wide open.)



WEEK
ONE
DECEMBER 2023

SMALL GROUP
3-5 YEAR
-OLDS

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If you're surprised and you know it, shout, 'Oh, wow!' (*Shout, "Oh, wow!"*)

If you're sad and you know it, wipe your tears. (*Wipe tears.*)

If you're sad and you know it, wipe your tears. (*Wipe tears.*)

If you're sad and you know it, then your face will surely show it. (*Wipe tears.*)

If you're sad and you know it, wipe your tears. (*Wipe tears.*)

BIBLE STORY

God tells Mary she is going to have His Son, Jesus.

THE ANGEL AND MARY
LUKE 1:26-33, 38

If you're happy and you know it, shout, 'Hooray!' (*Shout, "Hooray!"*)

If you're happy and you know it, shout, 'Hooray!' (*Shout, "Hooray!"*)

If you're happy and you know it, then your face will surely show it. (*Smile and point to your cheeks.*)

If you're happy and you know it, shout, 'Hooray!' (*Shout, "Hooray!"*)

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: "Today in our Bible story, we'll hear about a young girl named Mary. She got some surprising news! Can you show me your surprised faces? (*Pause.*) Great faces, everyone! Let's go hear about what Mary did when she was surprised."

MEMORY VERSE

"God loved the world so much that he gave his only Son."

JOHN 3:16, GNT

TRANSITION: Move to Worship and Story by having the children make different faces (scared, happy, excited, sleepy, silly, angry, etc.).

KEY QUESTION

How do we know
God loves us?

BOTTOM LINE

God gave us Jesus.

BASIC TRUTH

God loves me.



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PRELUDE SOCIAL WORSHIP STORY GROUPS HOME

CREATING A SAFE PLACE TO CONNECT
25 MINUTES

MADE TO CREATE
an activity that allows preschoolers to review the Bible story, bottom line, or memory verse by creating a craft to take home



5. JESUS IS THE PRESENT

[LIVE FOR GOD | APPLICATION ACTIVITY]

WHAT YOU NEED: "Jesus Is the Present" Activity Page, cardstock, scissors, crayons or washable markers, small white craft feathers, heart stamps, washable ink pads, glue sticks, baby wipes, and permanent marker

WHAT YOU DO:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: Copy "Jesus Is the Present" on cardstock and cut, one per child. Write each child's name on their paper and fold on the lines.

DURING THE ACTIVITY: Encourage children to color their paper, glue a feather to the angel, and stamp hearts around Baby Jesus.

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: Review the Bible story.

WHAT YOU SAY:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: "Friends, come sit with me at the table. Today in our Bible story, who delivered God's important message to Mary? (Pause.) An angel! That's right! I have a special picture for you to create today that will help you remember today's story."

DURING THE ACTIVITY: "Your paper looks like a present. Who do you see on your paper? (Pause.) It's the angel and Mary. Color your paper. (Pause.) Glue a feather to the angel. (Pause.) What was the important message the angel told Mary? (Pause.) Yes! She was going to have a baby and His name would be Jesus. Jesus is God's Son. Open your paper. Who's inside? Baby Jesus! That's the best present of all! Stamp hearts all around Jesus. (Pause.) Now close your paper and help me review today's story."

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: "Our Bible story is about the true story of Christmas, and it begins with a girl named Mary. God had an important message for her. God sent an angel to give Mary an important message! Mary was surprised and a little afraid. But the angel said, 'Do not be afraid Mary! God says you are going to have a baby and you will call Him Jesus.' Jesus would be SO special because . . . Jesus is God's Son! Wow! God loves you and me SO much that God gave us His only Son, Jesus. **How do we know God loves us? God gave us Jesus.**"

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MADE TO REFLECT

an activity that encourages personal application and prayer



6. JOURNAL AND PRAYER

[PRAY TO GOD | PRAYER ACTIVITY]

WHAT YOU NEED: "Memory Verse Card" Activity Page, cardstock, scissors, Bible, journal, and a fun-shaped pen

WHAT YOU DO:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: Copy "Memory Verse Card" on cardstock and cut, one per small group. Place one card in your Bible at John 3:16. Note: Keep this card in your Bible all month.

DURING THE ACTIVITY: Lead the children to pretend to fly like angels to your Small Group spot. Sit down and gather the children around you. Review the memory verse and motions, then encourage the children to help you make a list of gifts they can give others.

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: Pray with the children using the list you made in the journal.

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God loves me.

WHAT YOU SAY:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: "It's Small Group time! Today, we'll fly like angels to our Small Group spot. Follow me, little angels! (*Fly like an angel as you lead the children to your Small Group spot.*) Here we are! Let's sit down so we can talk about today's Bible story. One, two, three, sit down with me!"

DURING THE ACTIVITY: (*Open the Bible and lay it in front of the children.*) "In our Bible story, God sent an angel to tell Mary that she would have His Son, Jesus. That's how God gave Jesus to the world! I have a Bible verse we can learn that talks about how God gave Jesus to the world. It says, 'God (*flat hand with thumb to forehead, pull down*) loved the world (*cross arms over chest*) so much (*pull hands away from each other*) that he gave his only Son,' (*rock arms like a baby*) John 3:16. (*Open hands like a book.*) And God's only Son is Jesus!"

"Stand up with me, and let's say that Bible verse together! Just say what I say and do what I do. 'God (*flat hand with thumb to forehead, pull down*) loved the world (*cross arms over chest*) so much (*pull hands away from each other*) that he gave his only Son,' (*rock arms like a baby*) John 3:16. (*Open hands like a book.*) Yay! We just said one of my favorite Bible verses together!"

"Now, let's sit down so we can write in our prayer journal and talk to God. (*Open journal.*) **God gave us Jesus** because God loves us. **How do we know God loves us? God gave us Jesus!** That's right! And Jesus is the best gift EVER! Let's make a list of gifts we can give people to show them we love them. When I say your name, tell me a gift you can give someone, and I'll write it in our prayer journal. (*Remember to print as you write in the journal so the children can recognize their names and the letters.*) This is a great list of gifts!"



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(6. JOURNAL AND PRAYER, CONTINUED)

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: "Would anyone like to pray before I pray? (Give each child who wants to pray the opportunity to do so.)

"Dear God, thank You for loving us so much that You gave us Jesus. Thank You for Christmas so we can celebrate Jesus by giving each other gifts like *(read the list the children made)*. Help us show people we love them the way You show people You love them. You're the best, God. In Jesus' name, amen."