

Dec. 20th 2020

Today's Bible Story: How He Loves (Jesus Is Born) • *Luke 2:1-7*

Today's Bottom Line: God loved us so much that He gave us a Savior.

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 (NIRV)

Monthly Life App: Christmas—Celebrating Jesus, God's greatest gift

Basic Truth: I can trust God no matter what.

Small Group Connect (10 Minutes)



1. **Introduce** yourself, and **welcome** new kids by name.
2. Kids **share** what happened during the past week.
3. **Check up** on past week's prayer requests and events.
4. **Discuss** the welcome question: "Ask them about the best and worst part of their week."

5. Activity

1. Early Arriver

Made to Play: an activity that encourages learning through following guidelines and/or working as a group

What You Do:

- Welcome the kids by name as they arrive. Be sure to wish them a Merry Christmas!
- Choose a kid to think of one Christmas themed object. (*If they need help, you can whisper suggestions to them like: wreath, angel, manger, etc.*)
- Tell them not to say what they are thinking about but to keep it to themselves.
- Invite the rest of the kids to guess the object by asking only "yes" or "no" questions.
- Use a timer or set a limit of 20 questions.
- Continue playing until each kid has had a chance to think of a Christmas object.

Lead your group to the Large Group area.

6. Coloring pages and toys for play time.
7. **Transition to Large Group:**

Lead your group to the Story Experience area.

To create meaningful relationships with kids and parents so that they can confidently pursue a life-long relationship with Jesus.



Small Group Activity (20 Minutes)

3. Verse Tower

[Hear from God | Memory Verse Activity]

Made to Move: an activity that increases the oxygen in the brain and taps into the energy in the body

What You Need: “Memory Verse” Activity Page, Jenga® blocks, tape

What You Do:

- Divide the group into two teams.
- Make a masking tape starting line for each group.
- On the other side of the room mark where you’d like the kids to build their Jenga® towers. Make one tape line for each group.
- Guide each team to stand behind their starting line.
- Place twenty prepared blocks in random order on the floor next to each team’s starting line.
- At your signal, the first kid from each team will decide which block to grab, carry it across the room, and place it on the floor.
- The word should face the front so it’s visible.
- Relay style, the rest of the team will take turns grabbing a block, running to the end of the room, and stacking their block on top of the previous teammate’s block to build a tower.
- Inform the group that the goal is to build a tower so you can read the verse—top to bottom! (*Let the kids figure out what this means on their own. They have to start with the last word first, followed by the second-to-last word, and so on.*)
- If a kid delivers the wrong block, the next kid in line has to bring it back and place it with their team’s blocks at the starting line.

What You Say:

“You guys have really come a long way toward learning the verse this month! It can be really easy to lose sight of the real reason we celebrate Christmas. Our Christmas might look different this year because of what happened during the COVID-19 pandemic. Some of you may not get what you wished for or have a chance to celebrate Christmas the way you have in the past. Even if your Christmas is different this year, there is one truth that won’t ever change. And that’s the truth that our Bible verse reminds us of. **[Bottom Line] God loved us so much that He gave us a Savior.** That’s the most amazing gift of all. And it’s worth celebrating at Christmas!”



Small Group Discussion (10 Minutes)

1. **Say the Bottom Line and Bible Verse together:**
2. **Today's Bottom Line:** We can have hope because God keeps His promises.
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 (NIRV)

4. Pray and Dismiss

[Pray to God | Prayer Activity]

Made to Reflect: An activity that creates space for personal processing and application

Have everyone share a prayer request and then pray together.



3. Check Out & Parent Pick-up

Kids should stay in the Small Group until their parents arrive to pick them up and show the 3 digit tag that matches the number on the name tag of the child being picked up.

1. **Talk** about doing the God Time Cards and send one home with each child.

When a kid from your small group leaves, **say** something positive and specific to their parent. Remember this week to **Bottom Line:**

Encourage families to do the God Time Card together and read the Parent Cue.

To create meaningful relationships with kids and parents so that they can confidently pursue a life-long relationship with Jesus.