



WEEK
THREE
DECEMBER 2024

SMALL GROUP
K-1

TODAY'S SUGGESTED SCHEDULE

TODAY'S BIBLE STORY

Born to Save
Jesus Is Born
Luke 2:1-7

TODAY'S BOTTOM LINE

Celebrate because God
sent a Savior.

MONTHLY MEMORY VERSE

"[Mary] is going to have a son.
You must give him the name Jesus.
That's because he will save his
people from their sins."
Matthew 1:21, NIV

MONTHLY VIRTUE

Christmas—Celebrating Jesus,
God's greatest gift

BASIC TRUTH

I can trust God no matter what.

PRELUDE: Setting the Tone for the Experience

See the **Getting Ready** pages at the end of this document for a detailed description of what you'll need for today.

In the **Prelude** folder of your curriculum, you'll find a variety of other resources to help you prepare.

Check out our Pinterest page here <https://bit.ly/447HSzi> for a visual on some of the activities.

Check out our Small Group Leader Conversation Guides to guide you through salvation conversations: <https://bit.ly/4daxSUg>

SMALL GROUP

15
MIN

SOCIAL: Providing Time for Fun Interaction

Early Arriver
Opening Activity

LARGE GROUP

35
MIN

STORY: Communicating God's Truth in Engaging Ways

WORSHIP: Inviting People to Respond to God

Opener
Worship
Bible Story
Bottom Line
What's Our Part in the Story?
Prayer

SMALL GROUP

25
MIN

GROUPS: Creating a Safe Place to Connect

Bible Story Review: Nativity Puppets
Application Activity: Celebration Band
Memory Verse Activity: God Sent a Savior
Prayer Activity: Pray and Dismiss

HOME: Prompting Action Beyond the Experience

Parent Cue Card (Print or Email)
Devotionals for Kids
Parent Cue App



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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 working as a group



Before kids arrive, take a few moments to pray for them. Pray for those who might visit your group for the first time. Thank God for sending Jesus! Ask God to help the kids in your group trust and follow Jesus no matter what.

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1. EARLY ARRIVER

WHAT YOU NEED: Offering container, and a device for playing upbeat music

WHAT YOU DO:

- Welcome kids by name as they arrive.
- Encourage those who brought an offering to place it in the offering container.
- Direct the kids to stand up and spread out to play a game of Freeze Dance!
- Instruct the kids to dance and move around when the music is playing and freeze when you stop the music.
- Explain that any kids caught moving after the music stops are out.
- Start the music to start the game.
 - *Song suggestion: "Gloria" from Gloria single by Orange Kids Music*
- Pause the music randomly, looking to see if any kids are moving after the music stops.
- If a kid is caught moving, share that they are out.
- Continue playing until you declare an ultimate Freeze Dance Champion!



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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 spiritual ideas through the process of drawing, building, and designing



3. GOD SENT A SAVIOR

[HEAR FROM GOD | MEMORY VERSE ACTIVITY]

WHAT YOU NEED: Bible marked at Matthew 1:21, "Matthew 1:21 Ornament" Activity Page, crayons (or markers), single hole punch, and string or yarn; *Optional: a device for playing music*

TODAY'S BIBLE STORY

Born to Save
Jesus Is Born
Luke 2:1-7

WHAT YOU DO:

- Choose a kid to open the marked Bible to Matthew 1:21.
- Read the verse aloud, and invite kids to repeat after you.
- Repeat the verse a few times as a group.
- Remind kids that Jesus wasn't just any baby, Jesus is our Savior!
- Read the second part of Matthew 1:21 aloud again.
- Remind the kids that this special baby would be called Jesus and that He was sent to save us from our sins.
- Give each kid a cutout from the "Matthew 1:21 Ornament" Activity Page.
- Set out the crayons (or markers).
- Encourage the kids to color their ornament.
- Point out the verse on the ornament.
- Encourage the kids to write "JESUS" in the blank space provided on the ornament.
 - Write "JESUS" out somewhere for kids to reference, or help them write as needed.
- *Optional: As the kids are decorating their ornament, play fun Christmas music on a device.*
- As they finish, invite the kids to write their names on the back of their ornament.
 - Be sure to help as needed.
- Use the hole punch to create a hole at the top of each ornament.
- Run a piece of string or yarn through the hole, and tie the ornament for hanging.
- Let the kids hold onto their ornaments for the Pray and Dismiss Activity.

TODAY'S BOTTOM LINE

Celebrate because God sent a Savior.

WHAT YOU SAY:

"These ornaments look awesome! I'm so glad God sent Jesus to save us. God sent Jesus to save us from our sins. Sin is anything that gets in the way of our relationship with God—but because God loves us, God sent Jesus to give His life to make a way for us to be friends with God again! From the very beginning, God knew we'd need a Savior and had a plan to make things right! At just the right time, God sent Jesus that first Christmas! You can take your ornament home and find a place to hang it as a reminder that we **celebrate because God sent a Savior.**"

MONTHLY MEMORY VERSE

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PRELUDE SOCIAL STORY WORSHIP GROUPS HOME

CREATING A SAFE PLACE TO CONNECT
25 MINUTES

MADE TO REFLECT

an activity that creates space for personal understanding and application



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

WHAT YOU NEED: *Optional: Kids' completed ornaments from the God Sent a Savior Activity*

WHAT YOU DO:

- *Optional: Invite kids to hold up their ornaments from the "God Sent Us a Savior" Activity.*
- Repeat the Bottom Line together twice: **Celebrate because God sent a Savior.**
- Close the group time in prayer.

WHAT YOU SAY:

"Dear God, thank You for loving us SO much that You sent Jesus to save us. When we put our trust in Jesus and choose to follow Him, we know that we can have a friendship with You that lasts forever! What a reason to celebrate this Christmas! Help us to celebrate Jesus all year 'round. We love You, and we pray these things in Jesus' name. Amen."

As adults arrive to pick up, encourage the kids to show off their ornaments as they talk to their parents about how we **celebrate because God sent a Savior.**

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