

December 17, 2017

Bible Words: "God has given a son to us." Isaiah 9:6, NCV
Jesus is Born • Luke 2:1-7

Bottom Line: God gave us Jesus.

Basic Truth: God loves me.

The extended toddler curriculum provides older toddlers with the Bible Truth and craft element that some are ready to experience before they enter the twos. The same Bible Truth will be told in four (or five) different ways throughout the month allowing for the repetition toddlers need and crave.

Bible Time

- Draw It

Craft Time

- Triangle Ornament

Play Time

- Dance! Dance!

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Bible Time

Gather children on a rug or in a specific area of the classroom to tell the Bible Truth. Some kids (especially the younger ones) may wander. That's OK. They're still listening and learning!

What You Need: Preschool Bible, whiteboard, and dry erase markers

What You Say:

"I want to tell you about the very first Christmas! You can read all about it in the Bible. (*Hold up Bible.*) A long time ago an angel told a woman named Mary she would have a baby. (*Draw angel and Mary.*) This baby was going to be a VERY special baby. His name was Jesus!

"Right before the baby was born, Mary and her husband, Joseph, had to go to Joseph's hometown of Bethlehem. (*Draw buildings for town.*) Now, Mary was about to have the baby, so they needed to find somewhere to stay and fast.

"Mary and Joseph had to knock on doors to find a place to stay. (*Draw X's on doors as you say 'knocked.'*) They knocked and knocked and knocked but couldn't find anywhere to sleep. FINALLY, a man told Mary and Joseph that they could stay the night in his stable with all the animals, like chickens and sheep! (*Draw simple manger.*)

"That night Jesus was born in the stable. God gave us the most amazing gift that very first Christmas. He gave us Jesus. (*Draw Jesus.*) Happy birthday, Baby Jesus, and merry Christmas! God loves us so much He gave us Jesus.

"How do we know God loves us? [Bottom Line] God gave us Jesus."

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Craft Time

Gather small groups of children around you at a table for toddler craft time. Depending on the size of your group, you may lead the craft two or three times. Not every child may want to participate in craft time. That's OK. Feel free to send home the craft materials for them to complete with their mom or dad.

What You Need: "Triangle Ornament" and "Jesus" cutout, glue sticks, and crayons

What You Do:

During the Activity: Retell the Bible Truth as the children glue Jesus to the ornament.

What You Say:

During the Activity: "Today we heard about the very first Christmas. A long time ago an angel told a woman named Mary she would have a baby. This baby was going to be a VERY special baby. His name was Jesus!"

"Right before the baby was born, Mary and her husband, Joseph, had to go to Joseph's hometown of Bethlehem. Now, Mary was about to have the baby, so they needed to find somewhere to stay and fast.

"FINALLY, a man told Mary and Joseph that they could stay the night in his stable with all the animals, like chickens and sheep. That night Jesus was born in the stable.

"Look at your paper. What shape is that? It's a triangle. There is Mary and Joseph, but we are missing someone. Who are we missing? (*Pause.*) Yes! We need to glue baby Jesus on right here. Good job! Now you have an ornament that you can hang on your Christmas tree!

"God gave us the most amazing gift that very first Christmas. He gave us Jesus. Happy birthday, Baby Jesus, and merry Christmas! God loves us so much He gave us Jesus.
How do we know God loves us? [Bottom Line] God gave us Jesus."

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Playtime

Dance! Dance!

What You Need: Preschool Christmas music, music player

What You Do: Dance to Christmas music. Pause the music and have everyone yell, "Happy Birthday Jesus!" Continue as long as there is interest.

What You Say: "Friends, come and dance with me. Let me start the music. Yay! It's Christmas music. Christmas is when God gave us Jesus. Oh, the music stopped. Let's yell, 'Happy birthday, Jesus!' There's the music again. Let's dance. I'm so thankful God gave us Jesus."