



WEEK
ONE
DECEMBER 2023

SMALL GROUP
3-5 YEAR
-OLDS

PRELUDE

SOCIAL

WORSHIP

STORY

GROUPS

HOME

CREATING A SAFE PLACE TO CONNECT
25 MINUTES

MADE TO MOVE

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



4. A SPECIAL MESSAGE

[LIVE FOR GOD | APPLICATION ACTIVITY]

WHAT YOU NEED: "Images to Find" Activity Page,
cardstock, envelopes, and painter's tape

WHAT YOU DO:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: Copy "Images to Find" on
cardstock and cut, two sets per small group. Place each

separate image in an envelope and make a tape loop to attach each one to the
wall at a preschooler's eye level.

Encourage children to line up, one friend behind the other, in the center of your
activity area.

DURING THE ACTIVITY: One at a time, call each child by name to run to the
wall, select an envelope, and run back. Once the child arrives, encourage them to
open the envelope and show the group for all to identify. Each time a child opens
an envelope with a picture of Baby Jesus, repeat the dialogue below to lead
them to say the Bottom Line.

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: Review the Bible story.

WHAT YOU SAY:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: "Friends, stand here with me and make a straight
line, one friend behind the other. In our Bible story, God sent an angel to tell Mary
a special message. Do you remember what the angel told Mary? (Pause.) Yes! The
angel told Mary she was going to have a special baby named Jesus!"

DURING THE ACTIVITY: "Let's play a game where we try to find the angel's
message. When I say your name, run down and pick an envelope, then bring
it back. Then you can open it to see the message. [Child's name], run and pick
an envelope off the wall. Now bring it back. (Pause.) Open your envelope and
show everyone the message inside. (Pause.) Wow! It's [picture's name]! Was
that the angel's message? (Listen and respond accordingly.) Next friend, [child's
name], run and pick an envelope! (Pause.) Show us your message. It's Jesus! You
found the angel's message. **How do we know God loves us? God gave us
Jesus!**" (Continue with each child.)

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: "I'm so glad that God sent an angel with a special
message! The angel told Mary she would have a special baby named Jesus!
Jesus is special because Jesus is God's Son. Tell me again, **how do we know
God loves us? God gave us Jesus.** That's right! I'm SO glad **God gave us
Jesus!**"

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.



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CREATING A SAFE PLACE TO CONNECT
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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

BIBLE STORY

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

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

"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!"

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

MEMORY VERSE

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

JOHN 3:16, GNT

"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."

KEY QUESTION

How do we know
God loves us?

BOTTOM LINE

God gave us Jesus.

BASIC TRUTH

God loves me.