



WEEK
THREE
DECEMBER 2023

SMALL GROUP
3-5 YEAR
-OLDS

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



1. CHRISTMAS ORNAMENT

[HEAR FROM GOD | MEMORY VERSE REVIEW]

WHAT YOU NEED: "Christmas Ornament" Activity Page, cardstock, crayons, blue and green tissue paper squares, glue sticks, scissors, hole punch, ribbon or yarn, and a pen

WHAT YOU DO:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: Copy "Christmas Ornament" on cardstock and cut, one per child. Cut ribbon or yarn into eight-inch lengths, one per child. Hole punch at the top of each ornament and write each child's name on their paper. Thread a length of yarn in the hole of each child's ornament and tie a knot. Say the memory verse together with the motions.

DURING THE ACTIVITY: Encourage children to color Baby Jesus then flip over and have children glue blue and green tissue paper to resemble the world.

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: Say the memory verse as you do the motions, one more time, and review the Bottom Line.

WHAT YOU SAY:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: "Friends, let's say our memory verse together as we do the motions. Ready? '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.*) Nice job!"

DURING THE ACTIVITY: "Who do you see on your ornament? (*Pause.*) Baby Jesus! Color Baby Jesus. (*Pause.*) Great! Now flip your ornament over. On this side, glue the blue and green tissue squares to look like the world. (*Pause.*) Nice job! Let's say our memory verse together. 'God loved the world (*hold up the world side of a child's ornament*) so much that he gave his only Son,' John 3:16 (*Turn the ornament over to the side with Baby Jesus.*) Your ornaments look amazing!"

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: "Let's say our verse together, one more time with the motions. '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.*) God loves us so much that God gave us His Son, Jesus! **How do we know God loves us? God gave us Jesus."**

BIBLE STORY

The shepherds run to Jesus.

THE SHEPHERDS
LUKE 2:8-21

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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PRELUDE SOCIAL WORSHIP STORY GROUPS HOME

CREATING A SAFE PLACE TO CONNECT
25 MINUTES

MADE TO REFLECT

an activity that encourages personal application and prayer



6. JOURNAL AND PRAYER

[PRAY TO GOD | PRAYER ACTIVITY]

WHAT YOU NEED: Bible, journal, and fun-shaped pen

BIBLE STORY

The shepherds run to Jesus.

THE SHEPHERDS
LUKE 2:8-21

Now let's sit down so we can write in our prayer journal and talk to God. (*Open journal.*) The shepherds were so excited that **God gave us Jesus** that they ran and told everyone the good news! Let's make a list of people we can tell the good news about Jesus. When I say your name, tell me one person you can tell that **God gave us Jesus**. 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.*)

MEMORY VERSE

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

JOHN 3:16, GNT

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

"Dear God, we want everyone to hear the good news that You gave us Jesus. Please help [child's name] tell [name they listed], and [child's name] tell [name they listed] . . . (*continue with each child and who they listed*). We want everyone to know that Christmas is about You loving us so much that You gave us Your one and only Son, Jesus. We love You, 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.