

TODAY'S SUGGESTED SCHEDULE

TODAY'S BIBLE STORY

The angels tell about Jesus.
THE SHEPHERDS
LUKE 2:8-20

MEMORY VERSE

"God loved the world so much that he gave his only Son."
JOHN 3:16, GNT

KEY QUESTION

Why is Jesus special?

BOTTOM LINE

Jesus is God's Son.

BASIC TRUTH

God loves me.


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.

SMALL GROUP

15
MIN

SOCIAL: Providing time for fun interaction

- Offer one or more of these activities as preschoolers arrive.
- Match It Up
- Crafty Canes
- Christmas Cookies Part 3: Candy Canes 

LARGE GROUP

20
MIN

WORSHIP: Inviting people to respond to God STORY: Communicating God's truth in engaging ways

- "Jesus Is" and "What Christmas Is About"
- Bible Story
- Prayer

SMALL GROUP

25
MIN

GROUPS: Creating a safe place to connect

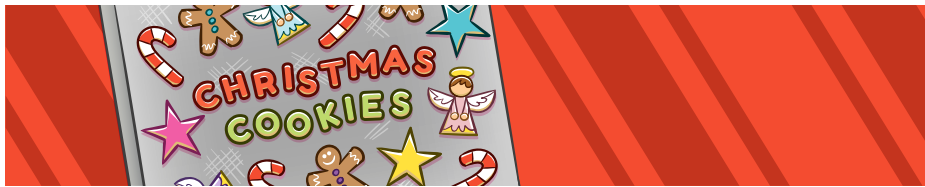
- Offer as many of these activities as your time, facilities, resources, and leadership allow.
- World Bounce
- Pieces of Christmas
- Candy Cane Lacing
- Shepherding
- Glory to God in the Highest
- Journal and Prayer

HOME: Prompting action beyond the experience

- Going Home
- Parent Cue Card (print or email)
- Parent Cue App



This symbol indicates an activity with potential allergens. Be sure to post allergy alert sign and inform parents at drop-off.



PRELUDE SOCIAL WORSHIP STORY GROUPS HOME

PROVIDING TIME FOR FUN INTERACTION
15 MINUTES

MADE TO MOVE

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



1. MATCH IT UP

WHAT YOU NEED: "Christmas Pictures: Large" and "Christmas Pictures: Small" Activity Pages, cardstock, scissors, and wall tape

WHAT YOU DO:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: Copy "Christmas Pictures:

Large" on cardstock, one per activity. Copy "Christmas Pictures: Small" on cardstock and cut apart, three to four sets per activity. Tape "Christmas Pictures: Large" on the walls of your activity area at preschooler eye level.

DURING THE ACTIVITY: Shuffle the "Christmas Pictures: Small" cards and place in a stack face down in the center of your small group area. Encourage the children to select a card from the stack, find the matching picture on the wall and run to it, then back to the center. Allow each child to take a turn until every match on the wall is found. If you run out of cards before each child has had a turn, reshuffle and continue.

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: Collect all cards and set aside for clean-up.

WHAT YOU SAY:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: "Friends, come over here with me! Do you see the pictures I hung around the room? I have pictures in this stack that match the pictures on the wall! One at a time, I want you to grab a picture then run with it to its matching picture. Then, you can head back to the center to let another friend have a turn."

DURING THE ACTIVITY: "Go ahead and select a picture! Oh look, it's a [picture's name]. Do you see a matching picture on the wall? Run to it!"

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: "That was fun! Let's talk about these pictures. This month we've been talking about how God gave us Jesus! (Hold up the picture of the angel.) An angel told Mary (hold up the picture of Mary) that she would have a baby. (Hold up the picture of the baby Jesus.) In today's story, some shepherds run (hold up the picture of the sheep) to see Baby Jesus. Let's find out what happened!"

TRANSITION: Move to Worship and Story by pretending to herd sheep like a shepherd.

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THE SHEPHERDS
LUKE 2:8-20

MEMORY VERSE

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JOHN 3:16, GNT

KEY QUESTION

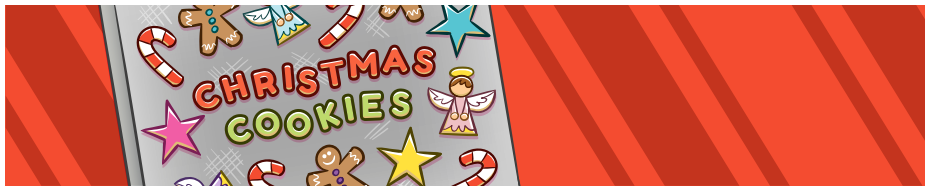
Why is Jesus special?

BOTTOM LINE

Jesus is God's Son.

BASIC TRUTH

God loves me.



PRELUDE SOCIAL WORSHIP STORY GROUPS HOME

PROVIDING TIME FOR FUN INTERACTION
15 MINUTES

MADE TO PLAY

an activity that encourages preschoolers to follow guidelines while having fun and learning new concepts



2. CRAFTY CANES

WHAT YOU NEED: "Canes" Activity Page, cardstock, scissors, cookie sheets, rick rack pieces, colored straw pieces, large buttons, pom poms, foam pieces, and a laminator

WHAT YOU DO:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: Copy "Canes" on cardstock, one for every one to two children. Laminate the pages then cut on the dotted lines. Place the cutouts on the cookie sheets. Place all of the craft items in a pile next to the cookie sheets in the activity area.

DURING THE ACTIVITY: Encourage the children to use the craft items to decorate the cutouts. After the children finish decorating the cutouts, allow them to pick them up and dump all of the craft items onto the cookie sheets. Invite the children to decorate the candy cane cookie again using other items and designs.

WHAT YOU SAY:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: "Today, we'll talk about shepherds. Shepherds take care of sheep. They use staffs to help them know which way to go. Staffs are sticks in the shape of canes." (*Hold up a cutout.*)

DURING THE ACTIVITY: "Let's decorate these canes with all of these cool craft supplies. (*Do activity.*) WOW! Your canes look super cool! Now, you may pick up your cane and dump all of the craft items onto the pan. (*Demonstrate.*) Awesome! Now we can decorate them again!" (*Finish activity.*)

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: "Great job! That was so much fun. It is time to hear our Bible story about the shepherds! I'm so excited!"

TRANSITION: Move to Worship and Story by pretending to walk with a shepherd's staff.

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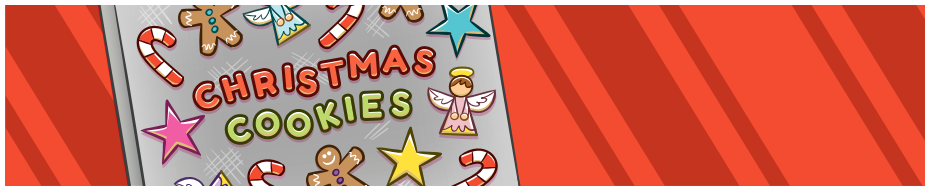
Why is Jesus special?

BOTTOM LINE

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BASIC TRUTH

God loves me.



PROVIDING TIME FOR FUN INTERACTION
15 MINUTES

MADE TO IMAGINE
an activity that lets preschoolers pretend, imagine, and role play to enhance their learning



3. CHRISTMAS COOKIES PART 3: CANDY CANES

Be sure to list the items you will be using today on the "Allergy Alert Poster" and post it at the door to your room. Also, we will repeat this activity every week this month with a different cookie cutter. Save all your baking items and bakeware to use each week.

TODAY'S BIBLE STORY

The angels tell about Jesus.
THE SHEPHERDS
LUKE 2:8-20

WHAT YOU NEED: "Allergy Alert Poster"; Play-Doh®; tablecloths; aprons; empty containers/ boxes of baking products (flour, sugar, baking soda, salt, eggs); several mixing bowls; plastic measuring cups and spoons; small rolling pins or dowel rods; plastic or wooden spoons; angel cookie cutters; gingerbread man cookie cutters; candy cane cookie cutters; "Candy Cane Cookie Recipe" Activity Page; and cardstock

MEMORY VERSE

"God loved the world so much that he gave his only Son."
JOHN 3:16, GNT

WHAT YOU DO:
BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: Copy "Allergy Alert Poster" on cardstock and hang on the door. Copy the "Candy Cane Cookie Recipe" Activity Page onto cardstock and cut on dotted lines, one or two copies per table for the children to reference. Cover the tables with tablecloths. Set out the baking product boxes, mixing bowls, spoons, cookie cutters, rolling pins or dowels, and balls of Play-Doh on the tables.

KEY QUESTION

Why is Jesus special?

DURING THE ACTIVITY: Give each child an apron to wear. Point out the "Candy Cane Cookie Recipe" Activity Pages on the tables to reveal what kind of cookie they will make. Encourage the children to pretend to pour the "baking products" into the bowl as indicated on the recipe card. Then, they mix the "ingredients" together with the spoon. After they finish, encourage them to roll out the dough (Play-Doh) and use the different cookie cutters to cut out their cookies.

BOTTOM LINE

Jesus is God's Son.

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: Gather all Play-Doh to return to air-tight containers. Gather all baking products and baking tools to set aside. (Remember, you will use these cookie cutters every week in December.) Encourage children to take off their aprons and place them in a designated spot for clean-up.

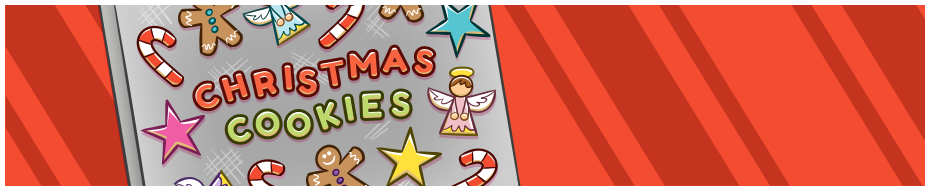
BASIC TRUTH

God loves me.

WHAT YOU SAY:
BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: "Friends, it's baking time! I love to bake cookies this time of year—so fun. Let's pretend to make some cookies. Can you guess what kind of cookies we'll make today? (Point to the recipe cards on the tables.) Yes, candy cane cookies! Make sure you have an apron."

DURING THE ACTIVITY: "Let's follow the steps on the recipe to make our cookies. Pour your ingredients into the bowls. (Pause.)"

"And now we have our dough! Let's roll it out and cut out our candy canes. You can also use the angel and gingerbread man cookie cutters from earlier this



PRELUDE SOCIAL WORSHIP STORY GROUPS HOME

PROVIDING TIME FOR FUN INTERACTION
15 MINUTES

MADE TO IMAGINE

an activity that lets preschoolers pretend, imagine, and role play to enhance their learning



month.”

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: “These look good enough to eat! (Hold up one of the candy cane cookie cutters.) Do you know what this looks like? A shepherd’s staff! Shepherds use these to guide their sheep. In our story today, we’ll hear about some shepherds who were watching over their sheep when something crazy happened!”

TODAY’S BIBLE STORY

The angels tell about Jesus.

THE SHEPHERDS
LUKE 2:8-20

TRANSITION: Move to Worship and Story by continuing to make cookies. Encourage them to measure the ingredients, mix them together, roll out the dough, and cut out the different shapes.

MEMORY VERSE

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JOHN 3:16, GNT

KEY QUESTION

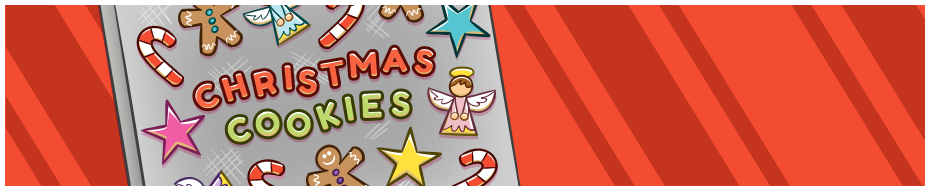
Why is Jesus special?

BOTTOM LINE

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BASIC TRUTH

God loves me.



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



1. WORLD BOUNCE

[HEAR FROM GOD | MEMORY VERSE REVIEW]

WHAT YOU NEED: Inflatable globe and a parachute or sheet

WHAT YOU DO:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: Lay the parachute flat on the floor. Place the globe on top of the parachute.

DURING THE ACTIVITY: Ask the children to stand around the parachute with you and invite them to each pick up a section of the parachute. Invite the children to shake their arms so that the parachute moves very fast. Encourage the children to bounce the globe high. Repeat several times.

WHAT YOU SAY:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: "Our memory verse tells us that God loves the world so much that He gave us Jesus."

DURING THE ACTIVITY: "Let's play with the parachute! We're going to bounce the world on the parachute. God loves the whole world so much! God gave us Jesus!" (Do activity.)

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: "God loves us so much that He gave us Jesus! **Jesus is God's Son! Why is Jesus special? Jesus is God's Son!**"

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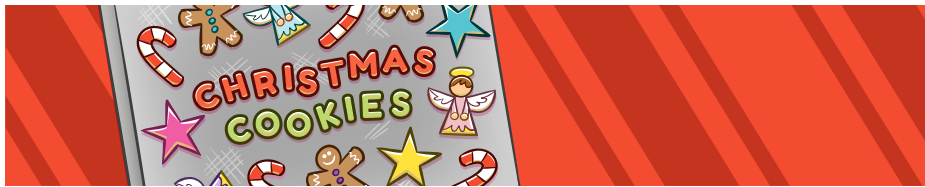
Why is Jesus special?

BOTTOM LINE

Jesus is God's Son.

BASIC TRUTH

God loves me.



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



2. PIECES OF CHRISTMAS

[TALK ABOUT GOD | BIBLE STORY REVIEW]

WHAT YOU NEED: Bible, "Story Puzzle" Activity Page, cardstock, scissors, and plastic zip-top bags

WHAT YOU DO:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: Copy "Story Puzzle" on cardstock and cut apart, one per child. Place the four

pieces in a baggie for each child.

DURING THE ACTIVITY: Review the Bible story as you lead the children in completing their story puzzles. Make sure the children put their puzzles back in their baggies to take home.

WHAT YOU SAY:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: "Hello, friends! I'm so glad you're here today. I loved today's Bible story (*hold up Bible*), and I have such a fun way for us to talk about it! First, I need to give each of you a baggie."

DURING THE ACTIVITY: "Okay, there are four puzzle pieces inside your baggie. Take them out and put your puzzle together. Let me know what you see when you're done. (*Go to each child and assist where needed.*) What picture do you see? (*Pause.*) Yes! The shepherds from our Bible story. What are the shepherds taking care of in the field? (*Pause.*) Yes, those are sheep. And what do sheep say? (*Pause.*) Baa-baa-baa! Who is talking to the shepherds? (*Pause.*) Right again! An angel. The angel came to tell the shepherds some very good news.

"Who remembers what the good news was? (*Pause.*) You are so smart! Yes, the angel told the shepherds that a very special baby had been born. What is that special baby's name? (*Pause.*) JESUS! And **why is Jesus special? Jesus is God's Son!** He sure is! The angel told the shepherds to go see the special baby, so they did! They were so excited about seeing Jesus, God's Son, that they told everyone the good news that He was born!"

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: "Now, put your puzzle pieces back in your baggie to take home. You can use your puzzle to tell everyone the good news, just like the shepherds did. Jesus, God's son, was born! **Why is Jesus special? Jesus is God's Son!**"

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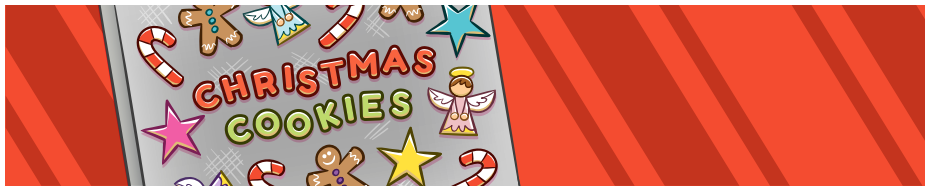
Why is Jesus special?

BOTTOM LINE

Jesus is God's Son.

BASIC TRUTH

God loves me.



CREATING A SAFE PLACE TO CONNECT
25 MINUTES

MADE TO THINK

an advanced activity specifically designed for older preschoolers



3. CANDY CANE LACING

[LIVE FOR GOD | APPLICATION ACTIVITY]

WHAT YOU NEED: "Candy Cane Lacing Cards" Activity Page, cardstock, a single hole punch, scissors, and yarn

WHAT YOU DO:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: Copy the "Candy Cane Lacing Cards" Activity Page on cardstock and cut out, one per child. Punch out holes around the candy cane as indicated by the circles along the edge. Cut pieces of yarn long enough to thread through the holes around the candy cane, one piece per child. Thread one end of the yarn through a hole in each candy cane and tie around the edge to secure.

DURING THE ACTIVITY: Gather the children to sit in your activity area and give each child a prepared candy cane. Demonstrate how to lace the yarn through the holes around the card.

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: Collect each card and set aside for children to take home.

WHAT YOU SAY:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: "This candy cane looks like a shepherd's hook. They use these to guide their sheep to the best grass! One night, a group of shepherds were out in the field, tending their sheep, when an angel appeared with some amazing news! Jesus had been born. Then a whole choir of angels filled the sky! What did the shepherds do? (Pause.) Yes, they ran to see Baby Jesus."

DURING THE ACTIVITY: "I have a special candy cane card for each of you. Today, we'll practice lacing this yarn around the card like this." (Demonstrate.)

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: "Great lacing, friends! I'm so glad the shepherds ran to see Baby Jesus! They were so happy that they told everyone Jesus was born. They knew that Jesus is SO special. **Why is Jesus special?** Because **Jesus is God's Son.**"

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The angels tell about Jesus.

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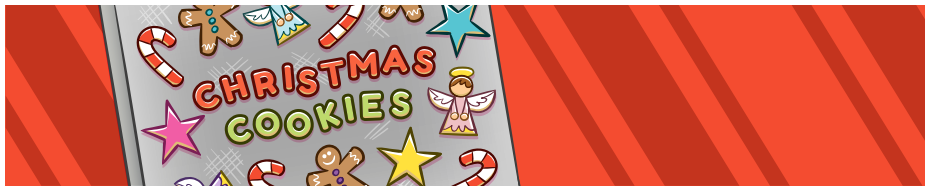
Why is Jesus special?

BOTTOM LINE

Jesus is God's Son.

BASIC TRUTH

God loves me.



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. SHEPHERDING

[LIVE FOR GOD | APPLICATION ACTIVITY]

WHAT YOU NEED: Candy canes (*in plastic*), cotton balls, and floor tape

WHAT YOU DO:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: Tape two long parallel lines on the floor of your activity area, about four feet apart.

DURING THE ACTIVITY: Have the children line up along one of the tape lines. If you have a large class, you may want to divide them in half and allow only one half of the children to play at a time. Give each child five or six cotton balls to lay on the line in front of them. When you say, "Go," the children will bend over and use only their staffs (*candy canes*) to move their sheep (*cotton balls*) from one line to the other then back to the original line as they announce the good news: Jesus is born!

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: Collect all the candy canes. Have the children help you collect all the cotton balls for clean-up.

WHAT YOU SAY:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: "Friends, come over here with me! I have a candy cane for you, BUT do not eat it! We're going to use these like shepherds' staffs. And these cotton balls will be our sheep. I'll give you a few cotton balls. I want you to use your 'staff' to move the cotton balls all the way to this line and all the way back like this. (*Demonstrate.*) As you move your sheep, I want you to say, 'Jesus is born!' just like the shepherds told everyone about Jesus!"

DURING THE ACTIVITY: "Who is ready for their sheep? I will know your ready when your candy cane is up like this. (*Hold candy cane in front of you with both hands.*) Looks like everyone is ready to play!"

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: "Sheep herding is hard work. Great job, shepherds! Why do you think the shepherds were so excited to tell everyone about Jesus? (*Pause.*) Yes! Jesus is special! **Why is Jesus special? Jesus is God's Son.**"

TODAY'S BIBLE STORY

The angels tell about Jesus.

THE SHEPHERDS
LUKE 2:8-20

MEMORY VERSE

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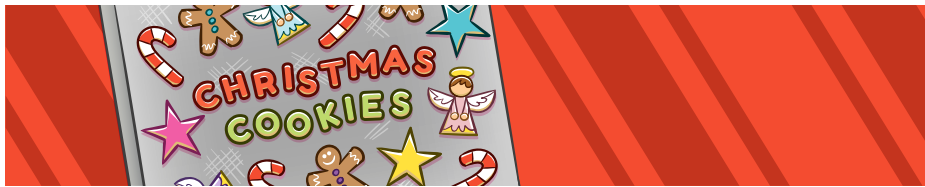
Why is Jesus special?

BOTTOM LINE

Jesus is God's Son.

BASIC TRUTH

God loves me.



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



5. GLORY TO GOD IN THE HIGHEST

[LIVE FOR GOD | APPLICATION ACTIVITY]

WHAT YOU NEED: "Shepherds" and "Angels" Activity Pages, cardstock, blue and green markers, cotton balls, glue sticks, and scissors

WHAT YOU DO:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: Copy "Shepherds" on cardstock, one per child. Copy "Angels" and cut out, one per child.

DURING THE ACTIVITY: Encourage the children to color the sky blue and the grass green. Glue the angels to the sky and the cotton balls to the grass.

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: Retell the Bible story.

WHAT YOU SAY:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: "Today we learned that angels came to deliver another special message. This time, they came to tell the shepherds that Jesus was born."

DURING THE ACTIVITY: "Look on your paper. Do you see the shepherds? (Pause.) They're out in the field. Can you color the ground green? (Pause.) Great! Now the sheep have grass to eat. These cotton balls look like sheep. Glue some on your paper. (Pause.) Great! Now color the sky blue. (Pause.) When the shepherds were out in the field tending their sheep, an angel came and told them that Jesus had been born! They were so excited to see Jesus. But before they went, the sky filled with angels saying 'Glory to God in the highest!' Glue your angels to the sky. (Pause.) The shepherds went to see Jesus. When they saw him, they knew they had to tell everyone that Jesus had been born."

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: "The shepherds were amazed and excited that Jesus had been born. Everyone who heard was amazed. They knew that Jesus was special because **Jesus is God's Son. Why is Jesus special? Jesus is God's Son.**"

TODAY'S BIBLE STORY

The angels tell about Jesus.

**THE SHEPHERDS
LUKE 2:8-20**

MEMORY VERSE

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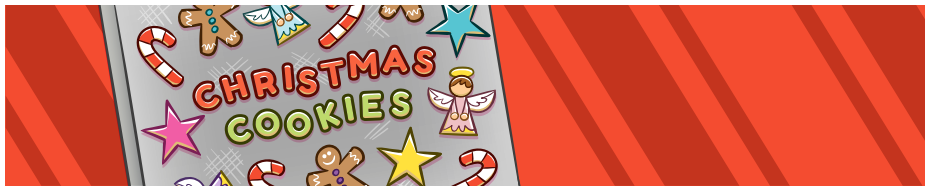
Why is Jesus special?

BOTTOM LINE

Jesus is God's Son.

BASIC TRUTH

God loves me.



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: Paperclipped "Memory Verse Card" in Bible at John 3:16, journal, fun-shaped pen, and candy cane cookie cutter

SMALL GROUP LEADER (SGL): "It's Small Group time! Today, we're going to pretend we're sheep and say, 'Baa-baa' all the way to our small group spot. Follow me little sheep! (Repeat "Baa-baa" as you lead the children to your Small Group spot.)

"We made it! Let's sit down and talk about today's Bible story. One, two, three, sit down with me! (Open the Bible and lay it in front of the children.)

"Our Bible story, today was about very exciting news! An angel told the exciting news to shepherds who were out in a field watching their sheep. Do you remember what the exciting news was? (Pause for response.) Yes! The angel told the shepherds that Jesus is here and they should go see Him! And **why is Jesus special?**"

CHILDREN AND SGL: "Jesus is God's Son!"

SGL: "Yes! Jesus is special because **Jesus is God's Son**. The Bible verse we have been learning says . . . (Turn the pages of your Bible to the Memory Verse Card.)

"God loved the world so much that he gave his only Son, John 3:16. (Close Bible and lay it down.)

"Wow! God's love for us is SO big that He sent His Son, Jesus, to be our friend forever! Let's stand up and say that together with the motions."

CHILDREN AND SGL:
"God (point up) loved the world so much (hug yourself) that he gave (hands out with palms up) his only Son,' (rock arms like a baby) John 3:16." (Open hands like a book.)

(Repeat the verse with motions a few times.)

SGL: "Yay! (Clap) You sound great! Now, let's sit down so we can write in our prayer journal and talk to God. (Hold journal, fun-shaped pen, and the candy cane cookie cutter for the children to see.)

SGL: "This candy cane cookie cutter reminds me of a shepherd's crook. See

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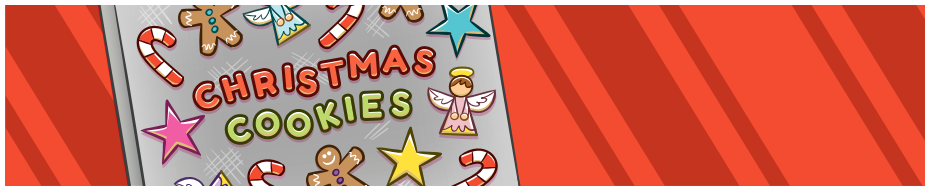
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BOTTOM LINE

Jesus is God's Son.

BASIC TRUTH

God loves me.



WEEK
THREE
DECEMBER 2020

SMALL GROUP
3-5 YEAR
-OLDS

PRELUDE SOCIAL WORSHIP STORY **GROUPS** HOME

CREATING A SAFE PLACE TO CONNECT
25 MINUTES

(6. JOURNAL AND PRAYER, CONTINUED)

how it's curved like the long sticks shepherds use to take care of their sheep? When I see a candy cane, I think of how the angel told the shepherds the good news about Jesus. After they saw Baby Jesus, they ran and told the good news to everyone else! They wanted everyone to know about Jesus! I think we should make a list of people we can tell about Jesus. Think of someone you know who you can tell the good news that God loved us so much He gave us Jesus!

"Are you ready? When I say your name, you get to hold the candy cane cookie cutter and tell me one person you can tell about Jesus. I will write the name in our prayer journal, then you'll give the candy cane cookie cutter to the next child whose name I call. The only person who can talk is the person holding the candy cane cookie cutter. Got it? Okay, get ready and listen for your name."

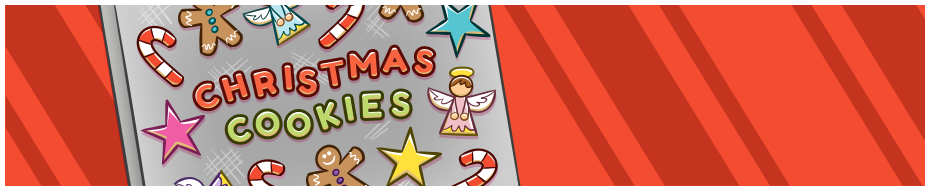
(Say each child's name. Make sure they get to hold the candy cane cookie cutter. Write down what they say. Remember to print the names so the children can recognize their names and the letters.)

SGL: "Thank you for doing that! Let's use the list we made when we talk to God. Would anyone like to pray before I pray?"

(Give each child who wants to pray the opportunity to do so.)

PRAYER

SGL: "Dear God, Thank You for the people who have told us the good news that Jesus is Your Son and He wants to be our friend forever. Help [child's name] tell [name listed] about Jesus, and help [child's name] tell [name listed] about Jesus, and *(continue with each child)*. We want everyone to know the good news that Jesus is Your Son and He wants to be their friend forever. We love You, God. In Jesus' name, amen."



GETTING READY

HERE'S EVERYTHING YOU NEED TO KNOW TO GET READY FOR THIS WEEK

SOCIAL: PROVIDING TIME FOR FUN INTERACTION (15 MINUTES)

Activities that encourage preschoolers to enter the classroom and begin engaging with peers and Small Group Leaders by providing age appropriate and hands on fun while introducing new concepts they will hear in the day's Bible story.

Prepare to offer one or more of the following activities as Your 3-, 4-, or 5-year-olds arrive. Let one or two teachers lead activities in different areas of the room while another teacher greets parents and kids at the door.

1. MATCH IT UP

Made to Move: An activity that uses a preschooler's natural desire to move to help them learn

WHAT YOU NEED:

- "Christmas Pictures: Large" Activity Page
- "Christmas Pictures: Small" Activity Pages
- Cardstock
- Scissors
- Wall tape

WHAT YOU DO:

- Copy "Christmas Pictures Large" Activity Pages on cardstock, one set per activity. Tape each page on the wall in your activity area at preschooler eye level.
- Copy several sets of "Christmas Pictures Small" Activity Pages onto cardstock and cut apart.

2. CRAFTY CANES

Made to Play: An activity that encourages preschoolers to follow guidelines while having fun and learning new concepts

WHAT YOU NEED:

- "Canes" Activity Page
- Cardstock
- Scissors
- Cookie sheets
- Rick rack pieces
- Colored straw pieces
- Large buttons
- Pom poms
- Foam pieces
- Laminator

WHAT YOU DO:

- Copy "Canes" on cardstock, one for every one to two

children. Laminate the pages then cut on the dotted lines.

3. CHRISTMAS COOKIES PART 3: CANDY CANES**

Made to Imagine: An activity that lets preschoolers pretend, imagine, and role play to enhance their learning

WHAT YOU NEED:

- "Allergy Alert Poster"
- Play-Doh®
- Tablecloths
- Aprons, one per child
- Empty containers/ boxes of baking products (flour, sugar, baking soda, salt, eggs)
- Several mixing bowls
- Plastic measuring cups and spoons
- Small rolling pins or dowel rods
- Plastic or wooden spoons
- Angel cookie cutters
- Gingerbread man cookie cutters
- Candy cane cookie cutters
- "Candy Cane Cookie Recipe" Activity Page
- Cardstock

WHAT YOU DO:

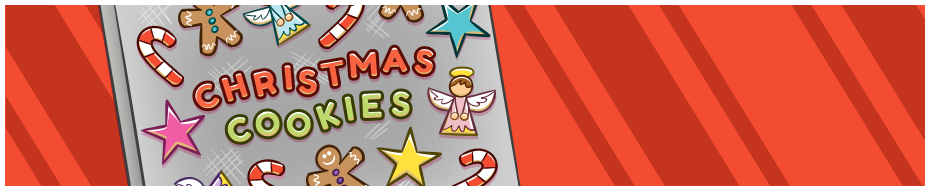
- Copy "Allergy Alert Poster" on cardstock and hang on the door.
- Copy the "Candy Cane Cookie Recipe" Activity Page onto cardstock and cut on dotted lines, one or two copies per table for the children to reference.

**Be sure to list the items you will be using today on the "Allergy Alert Poster" and post it at the door to your room. Also, we will repeat this activity every week this month with a different cookie cutter. Save all your baking items and bakeware to use each week.

GROUPS: CREATING A SAFE PLACE TO CONNECT (25 MINUTES)

Create a safe place to connect through activities that are written to reach every learning style while reinforcing the Bottom Line that was introduced during the Bible Story and applying it to real life experiences. In addition, these activities provide preschoolers with an opportunity to build relationships with their Small Group Leader.

Offer as many of the following activities as your time, facilities,



GETTING READY

HERE'S EVERYTHING YOU NEED TO KNOW TO GET READY FOR THIS WEEK

resources, and leadership allow. You may want to lead one activity at a time. Or, offer two activities at once and allow half the kids to participate in each. Then switch groups and repeat the activities.

1. MEMORY VERSE WITH MOTIONS

[HEAR FROM GOD | MEMORY VERSE REVIEW]

Made to Move: An activity that uses a preschooler's natural desire to move to help them learn

WHAT YOU NEED:

- Inflatable globe
- Parachute or sheet

2. PIECES OF CHRISTMAS

[TALK ABOUT GOD | BIBLE STORY REVIEW]

Made to Create: An activity that allows preschoolers to review the Bible story, Bottom Line, or memory verse by creating a craft

WHAT YOU NEED:

- Bible
- "Story Puzzle" Activity Page
- Cardstock
- Scissors
- Plastic zip-top bags, one per child

WHAT YOU DO:

- Copy "Story Puzzle" on cardstock and cut apart, one per child. Place the four pieces in a baggie for each child.

3. CANDY CANE LACING

[LIVE FOR GOD | APPLICATION ACTIVITY]

Made to Think: An advanced activity specifically designed for older preschoolers

WHAT YOU NEED:

- "Candy Cane Lacing Cards" Activity Page
- Cardstock
- Single hole punch
- Scissors
- Yarn

WHAT YOU DO:

- Copy the "Candy Cane Lacing Cards" Activity Page on cardstock and cut out, one per child.

- Punch out holes around the candy cane as indicated by the circles along the edge.
- Cut pieces of yarn long enough to thread through the holes around the candy cane, one piece per child.
- Thread one end of the yarn through a hole in each candy cane and tie around the edge to secure.

4. SHEPHERDING

[LIVE FOR GOD | APPLICATION ACTIVITY]

Made to Move: An activity that uses a preschooler's natural desire to move to help them learn

WHAT YOU NEED:

- Candy canes (in plastic), one per child
- Cotton balls
- Floor tape

WHAT YOU DO:

- Tape two long parallel lines about four feet apart on the floor in your activity area.

5. GLORY TO GOD IN THE HIGHEST

[LIVE FOR GOD | APPLICATION ACTIVITY]

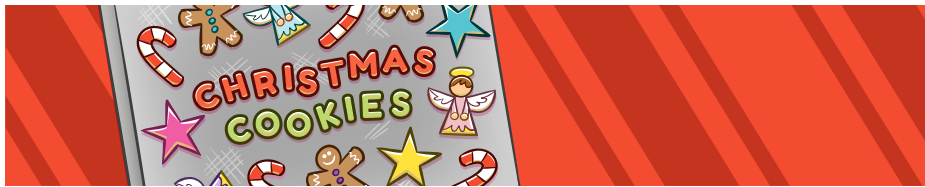
Made to Create: an activity that explores spiritual ideas through the process of drawing, building, and designing

WHAT YOU NEED:

- "Shepherds" Activity Page
- "Angels" Activity Page
- Cardstock
- Blue and green markers
- Cotton balls
- Glue sticks
- Scissors

WHAT YOU DO:

- Copy "Shepherds" Activity Page on cardstock, one per child.
- Copy "Angels" Activity Page on cardstock and cut out, one per child.



WEEK
THREE
DECEMBER 2020

SMALL GROUP
3-5 YEAR
-OLDS

PRELUDE SOCIAL WORSHIP STORY GROUPS HOME

GETTING READY

HERE'S EVERYTHING YOU NEED TO KNOW TO GET READY FOR THIS WEEK

6. JOURNAL AND PRAYER

[PRAY TO GOD | PRAYER ACTIVITY]

Made to Reflect: An activity that encourages personal application and prayer

WHAT YOU NEED:

- Paperclipped "Memory Verse Card" in Bible at John 3:16
- Journal
- Fun-shaped pen
- Candy cane cookie cutter

HOME: PROMPTING ACTION BEYOND THE EXPERIENCE

- Make copies on cardstock or email this week's Parent Cue card.
- Copy "Going Home" and hang on the door where Small Group Leaders can reference and remind parents of the Bottom Line and Memory Verse as parents pick up their children.
- Tell parents about our additional family resource, the **Parent Cue app**.

FIRST LOOK PINTEREST PAGE

Visit our Pinterest page to see craft samples and suggested supplies. <https://bit.ly/FirstLookPinterest>