



SHOW & TELL | WEEK 2 | DECEMBER 8, 2024

Preschool Lesson

THE SHEPHERDS

Bible Story: *The Shepherds* • The shepherds run to see Jesus and then run to tell everyone about Jesus • *Luke 2:8-20*

Memory Verse: “God has given a son to us.” Isaiah 9:6, NCV

Key Question: Why is Jesus special?

Bottom Line: Jesus is God’s son.

Basic Truth: I am made for a purpose so I can tell people about God.

LEADER BIBLE STUDY

Show and Tell is always a favorite. Children have so much fun looking for the most special thing they can find to show their friends, and what each child shares helps teachers and friends get to know them a little bit better by seeing what is most valuable to them.

This month, we’re taking a look at the ultimate Show and Tell. God showed the world how much He loves us by giving us Jesus. That is what we celebrate at Christmas, and that is what we will continue to show the world through our actions and tell with our words.

Story Focus: The shepherds run to see Jesus and then run to tell everyone about Jesus. On the night Jesus is born, there are shepherds in a field taking care of their sheep. While the shepherds are watching their sheep, an angel appears. The angel tells the shepherds that Jesus, God’s Son, has been born, and then, the whole sky fills with angels praising God. The shepherds are so excited they run to see baby Jesus. Then, the shepherds run to tell everyone that Jesus, God’s Son, is born.

Pre-Service Check List

- HUDDLE AS TEAM → You're in this together! Pray together and talk about the activities for the day.
- PLAY MUSIC
- PUT OUT TOYS → A welcoming environment is important! We want it to be obvious from the moment kids walk in that they belong HERE!
- PUT ASIDE DISTRACTIONS
- ENGAGE WITH KIDS

Morning Flow



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KID CONNECT

WELCOME TIME

(VIDEO: ARRIVAL MUSIC)

Play intro music in the background as you greet preschoolers and follow the KidCity check-in procedures. Set out a few favorite theme-related toys, such as puzzles and blocks.

OPENING CHRISTMAS ACTIVITY

(No Supplies)

Kid Connect time is spent building relationships with the kids. Gather your small group together for some intentional connecting time before Large Group. You can do small activities while you chat together (like coloring or building with blocks) or just sit and listen to each other. Ask your kids relationship-building questions like:

- What is your favorite Christmas song?
- Would you rather watch a Christmas movie or play a Christmas game?
- Do you like white lights or multicolored lights? Blinking lights or non-blinking lights?
- Would you rather a star on the top of a Christmas tree or an angel?

Transition to Large Group...

LARGE GROUP

COUNTDOWN

(VIDEO: COUNTDOWN)

Show the countdown video as the children clean up and transition to Large Group.

SETTING UP FOR SUCCESS

(CG: EXPECTATION SLIDE, BASIC TRUTHS SLIDE, MEMORY VERSE VIDEO; BIBLE)

LGL: "Hello my friends! How are you today? Come and sit with me. I am so glad you are here! My name is [your name]. I'm excited to spend time with you today! We are getting ready to sing and dance and hear a true story from the Bible. Before we do let's go over our rules and truths.

"Here in KidCity we have three rules. How many rules do we have? (*Kids respond.*) That's right! Three rules. Let's go over our rules now. (*List rules while counting on fingers*)

1. **Be kind.** We can be kind by using our indoor speaking voices, by staying on our blankets (or whatever space you have), and by obeying our leaders.
2. **Be safe.** We can be safe by walking around the classroom and keeping our hands to ourselves.
3. **Have fun!** We are going to have SO much fun, and that's because you are here!



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“Can everybody follow those rules today? *(Kids respond.)* Great! KidCity is a place where we learn about God and Jesus! And there are three big truths that we want you to know. Let’s say them all together! Are you ready?”

1. I am made by God. What is it? *(Kids repeat.)*
2. I am loved by God no matter what. What is it? *(Kids repeat.)*
3. I am made for a purpose! What is it? *(Kids repeat.)*

“It’s time for our memory verse. Let’s watch our memory verse motions and do it along with them!”

Show memory verse motion video and then practice without it.

‘God *(flat hand with thumb to forehead, pull down)*
has given *(pretend to give a gift)*
a son *(rock baby)*
to us,’ *(point to self twice)*
Isaiah 9:6.” *(Open hands like a book.)*

“Ok, now let’s sing and worship God!”

WORSHIP

(VIDEO: IT’S A HOLY NIGHT, SILENT NIGHT)

Sing the worship songs together.

INTRO SKETCH

(Baby Jesus Little People Figure, Sheep (Little People or Stuffed Animal), Beginner’s Bible and Story Box)

*LGL brings the story box with the prop and Bible to the center of the room.
You should have a Baby Jesus Little People Figure.*

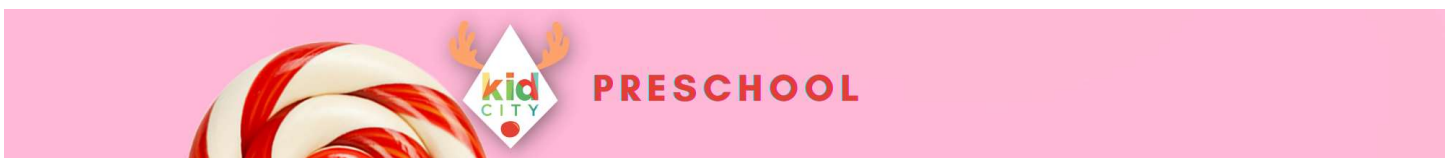
“I have my story box ready. I’m SO excited to see what we are learning about God today. Let’s see what I have in here…”

Pull out the Bible

What is this? *(Pause for responses.)* Yes, it’s the Bible! The Bible is God’s word and God’s word is always true. The Bible has many stories that make one BIG story, and we (you and me) are part of that story. Let’s see what else is in our story box today.

Pull out Baby Jesus and Sheep.

What do I have? *(Pause for responses.)* YES, it’s a baby and a sheep. This is a special baby. This is God’s son. His name is JESUS! In our story today we’re going to hear about some shepherds who ran to see baby Jesus. Do you know what a shepherd is? *(Pause for responses.)* A shepherd is someone who takes care of sheep. Do you know what sound a sheep makes? *(Pause for*



responses.) YES, *Baa-baa!* Let's make the sound of a sheep altogether. Ready? *Baa-Baa*. Excellent! Let's get our eyes and ears ready so we can listen to our story.

Let's click on our listening ears (tug on each ear, one at a time, as you make a click, click sound), let's put on our looking eyes (bring your hands, one at a time, to your eyes like binoculars as you say *shook, shook*) and let's put our hands that have been move and praising Jesus quietly in our laps.

Now we are ready. Let's watch today's true Bible story."

WATCH THE BIBLE STORY

(VIDEO: BIBLE STORY, BOTTOM LINE)

"I love that story! The shepherds ran to see Jesus then they ran to tell everyone about Jesus. Why is Jesus special? *[Bottom Line]* Jesus is God's son!"

When I ask, 'Why is Jesus special?' I want you to say, *[Bottom Line]* 'Jesus is God's son!' Are you ready? *(Pause for responses)*. 'Why is Jesus special?' *[Bottom Line]* 'Jesus is God's son!' YES! *[Bottom Line]* Jesus is God's son!"

SAY THE BASIC TRUTH

(CG: BASIC TRUTH SLIDE)

Let's look at our Basic Truth for today. It says, 'I am made for a purpose so I can tell people about God. Just like the shepherds we can tell others that Jesus is God's son!'

PRAY

"Let's get our hands ready to pray. *Open them close them, open them close them, give a little clap. Open them, close them, open them, close them, fold them in your lap.*

Dear God, thank you so much for a place where we can hear the true story of Christmas. Please help us tell everyone that Jesus is special because Jesus is your Son. We love you, God! In Jesus' name. Amen."

TRANSITION TO SMALL GROUP



SMALL GROUP

Bible Story: *The Shepherds* • The shepherds run to see Jesus and then run to tell everyone about Jesus • *Luke 2:8-20*

Memory Verse: “God has given a son to us.” Isaiah 9:6, NCV

Key Question: Why is Jesus special?

Bottom Line: Jesus is God’s son.

Basic Truth: I am made for a purpose so I can tell people about God.

SHOW ME THE STORY

(“Show Me the Story” Activity Page, Cut – 1 per group)

What You Do:

Before the Activity: Gather the children in your activity area.

During the Activity: Encourage children to re-enact the Bible Story.

After the Activity: Review the Bible Story and Bottom Line.

What You Say:

Before the Activity: “Friends, come join me.”

During the Activity: “I have pictures from our story today. Let’s work together to put our story in order.

- Do you remember what happened first in our story? Who gave Mary a special message” (Pause for responses.) Yes, the angel. Do you see the picture with the Angel and Mary?
- What happened next in our story? Mary and Joseph traveled a long way. Do you remember where they traveled to? (Pause for responses.) Yes, they traveled to Bethlehem. Did they stay in a hotel in Bethlehem. (Pause for responses.) No, they stayed in a stable. Do you see the picture with Mary and Joseph in the stable.
- Now what amazing thing happened next in our story? Who was born? (Pause for responses.) YES, Jesus was born!
- After Jesus was born, an Angel shared the good news that Jesus was born. Who did the angel tell Jesus is born? (Pause for responses.) Yes, the angel told the shepherds. Do you see the picture of the angel and the shepherds?
- The shepherds were so excited. What did they do next? (Pause for responses.) Yes, they ran to see the special baby Jesus!
- Happy Birthday, Jesus!

Now, everyone stand up. Let’s act out our Bible Story using our story pictures! Follow what I do (use the prompts on the back of the story pictures). Are you ready? Great! Here we go!

- **Picture #1:** An angel came to give Mary a special message. Can you show me the surprised face Mary might have made when the angel came to visit her? (*Make a surprised face.*)
- **Picture #2:** Then Mary and Joseph traveled a long way to Bethlehem. They walked a long



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way and maybe even rode on a donkey. Can you show me how to ride a donkey? (*Pretend to ride a donkey.*)

- **Picture #3:** Something amazing happened when they were in Bethlehem—Jesus was born! Can you rock the baby? Let’s be very, very gentle. (*Cradle your arms and rock them back and forth.*) Jesus was born in a place where animals sleep. Can you make some animal sounds? Let’s ‘baa’ like a sheep. (*Pause.*) Crow like a rooster. (*Pause.*) And ‘moo’ like a cow. (*Pause.*) Great job!
- **Picture #4:** That night, an angel told the shepherds that Jesus was born and the whole sky filled with angels praising God and singing, ‘Glory to God in the highest.’ Show me your surprised face that the shepherds might have had when the angel appeared to them. (*Pause.*)
- **Picture #5:** The shepherds were so excited; they ran to see this special baby! Run in place like the shepherds. (*Pause.*) Then, once they saw Him, they ran to tell everyone about Jesus! Run in place like the shepherds and say, ‘Jesus is born!’ Great job, everyone!”
- **Picture #6:** We celebrate Christmas because it’s Jesus’ birthday! Happy birthday, Jesus! Can everyone say Happy Birthday, Jesus! Ready? Happy Birthday, Jesus!

After the Activity: “Jesus is special because [Bottom Line] Jesus is God’s Son. Why is Jesus special? [Bottom Line] Jesus is God’s Son! One more time! Why is Jesus special? [Bottom Line] Jesus is God’s Son.”

SLEEPING SHEEP

(Parachute, Cotton Balls)

What You Do:

Before the Activity: Lay the parachute flat on the floor.

During the Activity: Invite children to stand around the parachute with you and pick up a section of the parachute. Place the cotton balls on the parachute and tell the children that they are sheep. Encourage children to shake their arms so that the parachute moves very fast, and the sheep are “running.” Then have children stop moving their arms so the sheep can sleep. After about ten seconds, ask the children to make the sheep run again. Repeat several times.

After the Activity: Talk about how in our story, we heard about the shepherds in the field taking care of their sheep when the angel told them Jesus had been born.

What You Say:

Before the Activity: “Friends, come join me around the parachute. I have a game for us to play with the parachute and these cotton balls.”

During the Activity: “Let’s pretend these cotton balls are sheep. (*Add the cotton balls to the parachute.*) And we can be the shepherds. Everybody, grab the edge of the parachute. Let’s move our arms fast to make the sheep run. (*Pause.*) Great job! The sheep are tired from all that running, so let’s stop moving our arms and let them sleep. (*Pause.*) Sheep, it’s time to wake up! Let’s make them run again! (*Repeat as many times as desired.*) That was so much fun! Let’s put the parachute down and have a seat.”



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After the Activity: “In our story today, we heard how the shepherds were out in the field taking care of their sheep when an angel appeared and told them that Jesus had been born. Then, the whole sky filled with angels! How amazing! The shepherds ran to see Baby Jesus. Then they ran to tell everyone that Jesus had been born. God loves us so much that He gave us Jesus. **Why is Jesus special? [Bottom Line] Jesus is God’s Son.**”

MEMORY VERSE WITH MOTIONS

(Memory Verse Motions Poster - 1 per group)

Say the memory verse using motions from the Memory Verse Motions poster. Repeat several times and encourage children for their efforts.

‘God *(flat hand with thumb to forehead, pull down)*
has given *(pretend to give a gift)*
a son *(rock baby)*
to us,’ *(point to self twice)*
Isaiah 9:6.” *(Open hands like a book.)*

PRAY

“Let’s pray together. *(Have kids “put both hands up in the air, clap them together once [keep hands clasped], and then lower them down to their lap.”)*

Dear God, help us tell everyone the good news that *[Bottom Line]* Jesus is God’s Son! We love you, God. In Jesus’ name. Amen.”

EXTRA ACTIVITY (If Time Allows)

Chipboard Nativity

Allow kids to play with the chipboard Nativity and retell the story.

CONNECT WITH PARENTS/INFLUENCERS

(First Look Placemats - 1 per child)

Hand out placemats and encourage parents/influencers to review the Preschool lesson with their child this week.

