

CHRISTMAS | WEEK 5 | November 30th, 2025 | ELEMENTARY

### **Jesus is Promised**

Key Application: Christmas: Celebrating Jesus, God's greatest gift.

Bible Story: Jesus is Promised • *Isaiah 9:6-7, Micah 5:2* Key Question: What's the best news you've heard?

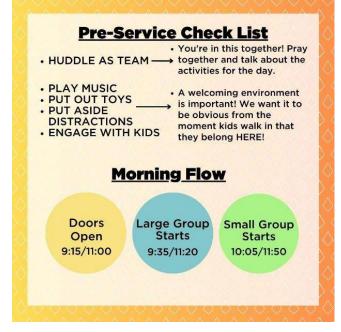
Basic Truth: I am loved by God no matter what so I can belong is God's family forever.

Memory Verse: "Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you. He is the Messiah, the Lord." Luke 2:11, NIrV

# LEADER BIBLE STUDY

Merry Christmas! It's time once more to "let every heart repair a broom" and "sleep in heavenly peas." Even though there can be confusion around some of the classic carols, every kid knows that Christmas is a time to celebrate. And we have the incredible privilege of explaining why! You may be teaching the Christmas story for the fourth time (or twenty fourth), but it's still fresh and new for the kids in your ministry. Even though some of them may have heard the story every year, that doesn't mean they yet understand how the birth of Baby Jesus two thousand years ago changes everything for us today.

In Week 1, we'll look at prophecies of Jesus' birth from a dark time in the decline of God's people and the return from exile. We'll explore how God had a plan from the very beginning to send Jesus and how all of history leads up to that point. In the stories of Mary and Zechariah, in the birth of Jesus, and in the visits of the shepherds and the wise men, we see how God's perfectly orchestrated story was cause for celebration then... and how it's just as much reason for us to celebrate today!



Story Focus: To start off the month, though, we're hopping back in time to look at the most important prophecies of Jesus' birth. Isaiah lived in a tumultuous time as the northern kingdom of Israel was destroyed and enemies closed in on Judah. But God gave Isaiah words of hope and peace for God's people then... and for the whole world. "A child will be born to us. A son will be given to us. His rule will be based on what is fair and right. It will last forever." That news makes me want to cheer! Then Micah points to a ruler who would be born in Bethlehem. More incredible news. [BOTTOM LINE] Jesus is good news for everyone.

# LARGE GROUP

### **COUNTDOWN AND WELCOME (3 Minutes)**

(VIDEO: COUNTDOWN, SLIDE: KIDCITY EXPECTATIONS)

**LGL:** "How was Thanksgiving? Today is the first day of Advent and we're celebrating the good news of Jesus' birth! I'm so glad you are able to come hang out with us in KidCity today. My name is [INSERT NAME]. We are going to have a lot of fun today, but before we do let's go over these announcements/KidCity Expectations.

(SLIDE: KIDCITY EXPECTATIONS) "Now, let's quickly go over our KidCity Expectations (rules) so we can make sure that we make the most of our time today: (Don't dwell on these too long, but make sure you review them briefly so we can set everyone up for success.)

- 1. Be Kind
- 2. Be Safe
- 3. Have Fun

This month is extra-special because we're discovering how Christmas is all about celebrating Jesus—God's greatest gift to us. God sent His Son because He loves us!

"We want this Christmas to feel different than any one you've experienced as you realize God's great love for you!"

(SLIDE: KEY APPLICATION) Christmas: Celebrating Jesus, God's greatest gift.

Let's check out our memory verse for the month.

(SLIDE: MEMORY VERSE) "Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you. He is the Messiah, the Lord." Luke 2:11, NIrV

Take a minute to explain that 'Luke' is a book in the NewTestament, and that the first number means 'chapter' and the second one means 'verse'. 'NIrV' is what translation the Bible is in. The Bible wasn't originally written in English! There are different translations.

This verse may seem short, but in it it packs thousands of years of promise. Finally, from the moment sin entered the world, God has kept His promise to send a rescuer!

# **LARGE GROUP GAME (5 Min)**

#### ONE HOOF TWO HOOVES NONE

(No Supplies)

(SLIDE: ONE HOOF, TWO HOOFS, NONE)

#### **HOW TO PLAY:**

- **EXPLAIN.** A slide will appear showing a reindeer holding up either one hoof, two hooves, or none. Kids will have to hold up either one arm, two arms, or none. After they've locked in their guess by holding up their arms (or none), go to the next slide. If a kid is MATCHING the slide, then they are out and need to sit down. Play until either one kid remains or you run out of time.
- FOR FASTER ROUNDS: Have kids who match the screen remain IN the game

and everyone else sits down.

"That was so fun! Now everyone stand up and let's worship God!"

### **WORSHIP (6-7 Minutes)**

(VIDEO: JOY [CHRISMAS], GO TELL IT ON THE MOUNTAIN)

### **BIBLE STORY (12 Minutes)**

(Wrapped Gift Box with Labeled Hope on one side)

"This month we've reached the part of the Bible where God is about to give us the greatest gift—Jesus! Christmas is all about the best news ever—a promise made long ago that finally happened: Jesus, God's greatest gift. (Hold up a wrapped gift.)

At Christmas sometimes there are special gifts coming, but we have to wait and trust. How does it feel to wait for something you want? ...

That's how people felt waiting for Jesus they've been waiting for years, and I mean, a really long time, for that news to come true. Throughout the years, God kept working on that plan. And today, we're going to look at a few times when He gave messages to His prophets.

Christmas is all about the best news ever—a promise made long ago that finally happened: Jesus, God's greatest gift.

OUR HOPE – (Turn the wrapped gift around and place it on the ground with the Hope label facing the kids.)

Let's check this out..."

#### (VIDEO: BIBLE STORY 5-7 MIN)

"We've heard an incredible story today—a promise that changed the world. Hundreds of years before Jesus was born, prophets like Isaiah and Micah told everyone that the Rescuer was coming. And that's exactly what happened on the first Christmas. God sent us Jesus, His greatest gift.

"God had been working on bringing Jesus to us for a long, long time."

"This Christmas, as we celebrate and have fun, let's remember that Jesus is good news for everyone. He's not just part of the decorations. He's the reason we have HOPE. He's our Savior! Our Rescuer! He's the Breaker of that awful curse.

Let's look at our basic truth...

(SLIDE: BASIC TRUTH) I am loved by God no matter what so I can belong in God's family forever.

As we head to Small Groups, we want you to consider this question:

(SLIDE: KEY QUESTION) 'What's the best news you've ever heard?

Have kids turn and talk to their shoulder partner for 60 seconds. Your KQ slide on Playlister will keep track of time for you. While kids are talking, walk around and listen in to what they are saying and give prompts if needed. Don't try to resolve anything, kids will have a further discussion within their small group time.

"Ok friends, come back together in 3, 2, 1....

"I heard some great thoughts floating around. You are going to have more of a chance to talk about this in small group time, but for now let's pray.

God, thank You for giving us the best gift ever—Jesus. Help us to celebrate Him not just during Christmas, but every day. And help us to share the great news of Jesus. You are so good, and You love us all. We love You, and we pray these things in Jesus' name. Amen.

#### **DISMISS TO SMALL GROUPS**



# SMALL GROUP

Key Application: Christmas: Celebrating Jesus, God's greatest gift.

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Lord." Luke 2:11, NIrV

Consider praying before you start small group to set the tone. It is just as important as the activities.

## TALK ABOUT IT (K-5<sup>th</sup>)

Not every answer will be exactly right, but the goal is to guide the kids into good conversation and gently redirect them toward deeper, more biblical answers.

Key Question: What's the best news you've heard?

(Answers will vary)

### LOOK IT UP (3rd-5th)

Grab Bibles, look up, and read the following passage.

Look Up: Isaiah 9:6-7 and Micah 5:2

**Say**: God spoke to people about things that were coming through prophets. Today we are reading what God's prophets, Micah and Isaiah said about the Hope we can have in the coming savior, Jesus.

# PRACTICE IT (K-5<sup>th</sup>)

(12-16 dominoes or blocks that are similar)

#### What You Do:

- Show kids the dominoes and invite them to help you build a big "chain reaction" design.
- Let them work together to place the dominoes back-to-back in any creative pattern—straight line, zigzag, winding path, etc.
- Ask kids to notice how each domino needs to be close enough for the next one to fall.
- Highlight teamwork—every domino (and every helper) matters for the chain to work.
- Pick a kid to start the chain reaction by knocking over the first domino.
- Watch the dominoes tumble and celebrate when they reach the end!
- Explain:
  - o "God's plan to send Jesus was just like this chain reaction—every person, every moment, every promise worked together perfectly so Jesus would come at just the right time!"
  - "The incredible thing is that this chain reaction keeps going as we share the good news about Jesus with everyone around us!"
- Encourage the kids to reset the dominoes, to try building new patterns, and see if they work differently!
- Let different kids start the chain reaction each time, so everyone gets a turn.



#### Talk Together

- Recap the Bible Story:
  - o God promised a special child would be born: Isaiah said this child would be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, and Prince of Peace.
  - Why did we need a Savior? In the Garden of Eden, Adam and Eve broke their closeness with God. No one could be close to God anymore. But God didn't want to keep things that way! He loves us and wants to be close friends with each of us. So over years and years and years, God was faithful, through every moment and every person, to send Jesus and start the plan to rescue us because God loves you so much and He is so good!
  - o As Micah said, the Savior would be born in the small town of Bethlehem.
  - o These promises were given hundreds of years before Jesus was born, and God kept every one of them!
  - o How do you think God feels about you since He worked hundreds and hundreds of years to bring His great plan for you?

#### What You Say:

"How cool was that?! Every single block had to be in the right place for the chain reaction to work. If we left out even one block, the chain would have stopped. Every part of God's plan to send Jesus was important! He used people, places, and promises from a long time ago to get everything ready for the Savior to come.

"This season, there are Christmas decorations all around you. The whole world is having a party! That's because whether or not people believe it, Jesus is the true reason for the season. God sent His Son to save the world! So, **Jesus is good news for everyone!**"

### **GET STRONGER (K-5<sup>th</sup>)**

(Memory Verse Poster, Bibles)

#### What You Do:

- Gather the kids into groups.
- Give every group a Bible.
- Invite them to look up this month's Memory verse, Luke 2:11 (Kindergarten 2<sup>nd</sup> Give each group a Bible marked at Luke 2:11)
- Repeat the verse together several times.
- Review any words that might be unfamiliar to the kids, like 'Messiah': "Messiah" is a special title that
- means: "Anointed One" or "Chosen One."
- Move Together: Set the Bibles aside and teach the kids this month's verse motions.
  - o "Today" Point straight down with both hands like you're marking right now.
  - o "in the town of David" *Make a "roof" over your head with your hands.*
  - o "a Savior" Spread your arms wide like you're about to hug.
  - o "has been born" Rock your arms like you're holding a baby.
  - o "to you." Point to a friend or the group.
  - o "He is the Messiah," Pretend like you're putting on a crown with your hands.
  - o "the Lord." Point both hands up to the sky.
  - o "Luke 2:11" Open the palms of your hands together like you're opening a Bible.

Repeat the motions until the kids have learned them.

#### **PRAYER**

#### What You Say:

"Dear God, thank You for sending the light of Jesus to us. Help us to remember and celebrate the true meaning of Christmas, which is Your love for us. You love us so much that You sent us Jesus! Help us share about Your great love this Christmas and beyond. We love You, and we pray these things in Jesus' name. Amen."