



CHRISTMAS | WEEK 2 | DECEMBER 14, 2025 | ELEMENTARY

Jesus Is Born

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

Bible Story: Jesus Is Born • Luke 2:1-20

Key Question: What's the best gift you've been given?

Basic Truth: I am loved by God no matter what so I can belong to 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, NIV

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: It's Week 2, and we've reached the main event. Jesus is born! God could have sent His Son to be born in the finest palace – but instead, Jesus was born in a place where the animals stayed with a manger as his bed. The birth announcement was pretty dramatic, though – because God sent brilliant angels to declare the news to a group of shepherds in the nearby fields. And once these shepherds saw the baby king, they couldn't help shouting out the good news wherever they went. [BOTTOM LINE] Jesus is the greatest gift.

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

Doors
Open

9:15/11:00

Large Group
Starts

9:35/11:20

Small Group
Starts

10:05/11:50

LARGE GROUP

COUNTDOWN AND WELCOME (3 Minutes)

(VIDEO: COUNTDOWN, SLIDE: KIDCITY EXPECTATIONS)

LGL: “Welcome everyone! 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

“Raise your hand if you say, Happy Christmas? Who says, Merry Christmas. Today, we’re going to dive into the Christmas story and look at the best gift of all—Jesus.”

(SLIDE: VIRTUE) “Christmas is celebrating Jesus, God’s greatest gift.

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

(SLIDE: MEMORY VERSE)

- “Today” – *Point straight down with both hands like you’re marking right now.*
- “in the town of David” – *Make a “roof” over your head with your hands.*
- “a Savior” – *Spread your arms wide like you’re about to hug.*
- “has been born” – *Rock your arms like you’re holding a baby.*
- “to you.” – *Point to a friend or the group.*
- “He is the Messiah,” – *Pretend like you’re putting on a crown with your hands.*
- “the Lord.” – *Point both hands up to the sky.*
- “Luke 2:11” – *Open the palms of your hands together like you’re opening a Bible.*

Take a minute to explain that ‘Luke’ is a book in the New Testament, 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.

That verse the message the angel declared to the shepherds on the night Jesus was born! But before we get to that part of the story, let’s play a game.

LARGE GROUP GAME (5 Min)

Candy Cane TP Race

(3 Rolls of Toilet Paper, long table, and 3 full size Candy Canes)

(SLIDE:)

HOW TO PLAY:

- **Pick One Small Group Leader, One Guy and one Girl. (Younger kids may need a leader to work with them as a team. So pick 3 kids and 3 leaders to help)**
 - Give each person a roll of Toilet Paper and a candy cane.
 - They must carefully unroll enough toilet paper to lay down the length of the table.
 - Once the toilet paper is unrolled long enough, place the candy cane at the end of the table on the last piece of toilet paper.
 - Go to the other end of the table and carefully roll the toilet paper back up without the candy cane falling off.
 - If the candy cane falls off, fix it, and then continue rolling.
- **"On your mark, get set, GO!"**
- **Winner.**
 - Brings the candy cane all the way across the table to the other side on the toilet paper, the fastest.

"That was so fun! Now everyone stand up and we will sing some Christmas worship songs!"

WORSHIP (6-7 Minutes)

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

BIBLE STORY (12 Minutes)

(Two Wrapped box with Joy and Love label on one side)

Walk out with two wrapped boxes, labeled Joy and Love. During the Christmas season, there are Christmas trees and candy canes and there's so much joy—all to celebrate what happened on that very first Christmas, when God gave us Jesus—Jesus is the greatest gift!

God sent an angel to a young woman named Mary to tell her some incredible news—she was going to have a baby!

This baby God was sending was going to be a very special baby! God wasn't just going to rescue us; He was sending a Rescuer—His very own Son!

Christmas is all about the best news ever—a promise made long ago that finally happened: God loved us so much he gave us Jesus. – *(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 5/6 MIN)

No one understood it then, but this tiny baby would grow up to teach, heal, and show people what God is like. And then Jesus would choose to lay down His life and die on a cross—for you and me, and for the whole world. He would break that curse of sin so we could be close to God again.

"Because of Jesus, we can have a relationship with God that will last forever! Jesus is our Rescuer!"

"And that's why we celebrate Christmas! Jesus is the reason for the season. At Christmas, we celebrate that God gave us



the greatest gift.

(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 gift you've been given?

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.

"Dear God, thank You for sending us the greatest gift of all, Your Son, Jesus. Help us to remember this Christmas, and every Christmas, that You gave us the greatest gift because You love us so much. Merry Christmas, Jesus. We love You so much, amen."

DISMISS TO SMALL GROUPS



SMALL GROUP

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TALK ABOUT IT (K-5th)

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 gift you've been given?

LOOK IT UP (3-5th)

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

Look Up: Matthew 1:21

Say: What is the reason that Mary was to name her baby Jesus? What does it say Jesus's purpose was?

Practice It

(3 oz. Sized Green Dixie Cups – 12 per group, Gift Giver labels – 2 sets of cards per group, tape, Yellow Pom-Poms – 10-12 per group)

What You Do:

- Stick "Gift Giver" Labels card onto each cup.
- Explain how to play:
 - You will be the 'Gift Giver' and read to the kids one clue at a time that describes a gift we get from God **without** saying its name.
 - The groups must discuss and choose the cups that matches their guess. After a few tries, you'll reveal the answer!
- One by one, read the clues below
- Continue until all the gifts have been guessed.
- **After** clues have all been answered. Each child will take turns stacking trees (green cup) and stars (yellow pom-pom) until all the 'Christmas Trees' are stacked or they topple over. Repeat a couple of times to see how many "trees" your group can stack. You can even speed it up to see how quickly they can stack the trees.

Clues and Answers

- Clue: This gift can't be bought, but it's the reason you can live forever with God. (*answer: eternal life*)
- Clue: This gift wipes away your sins and makes you clean before God. (*answer: forgiveness*)
- Clue: This gift never runs out, even when you feel far away from God. (*answer: God's love*)
- Clue: This gift gives you the true feeling that you're never alone, even when life feels hard. (*answer: peace through Jesus*)

- Clue: When you choose to follow Jesus, this gift lives inside of you—it's God living inside of you! (*answer: the Holy Spirit*)
- Clue: This gift is what happens when you choose to follow Jesus. (*answer: part of God's family*)

Get Stronger

(Memory Verse Page, Bibles marked to Luke 2:11, Crumpled up Piece of wrapping paper)

What You Do:

- Before starting the game, invite kids to open their Bibles to Luke 2:11.
- Practice saying the verse together a few times, first reading it slowly, then trying to say it without looking.
- Explain that now you'll play a game called "Catch the Verse."
- Instruct the kids to join you, standing or sitting in a circle.
- Toss the "ball" of wrapping paper to one kid and encourage them to say the first part of the verse.
- Instruct the kid holding the ball to say the next phrase of the verse before tossing the ball to someone else.
- Continue until the group completes the verse.
- Keep playing until the kids can say the whole verse with confidence

PRAYER

What You Say:

"Dear God, thank You for sending us the greatest gift of all, Your Son, Jesus. Help us to remember this Christmas, and every Christmas, that You gave us the greatest gift because You love us so much. Merry Christmas, Jesus. We love You so much, Amen."