

JESUS IS OUR RESCUER



Bible Reference: Luke 2

Date: 12/21/25

Grade: PreK /Kindergarten

2nd Service

Memory Verse:

"And he will be called Wonderful Counsellor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace" Isaiah 9:6

Schedule

- Welcome/ Intro Activity.....5 minutes
- Kids Worship @ 11:00.....15-20 minutes
- Circle Time and Bible Story.....10 minutes
- Movement Activity.....10 minutes
- Craft.....5-7 minutes
- Music.....5 minutes
- Global Partner Feature.....5-7 minutes
- Prayer and Bible Verse.....10 minutes
- Snack/ Discussion Time.....5-7 minutes
- Additional Activities.....As Needed

Notes and Reminders

Happy final Kid Min Sunday of 2025! We are so grateful for all of the ways you have loved and served the children and families of LEFC this year! We cannot wait to see how God will move in the hearts of our children in 2026. We will see you in January!



SHEPHERD BIBLE STUDY

The announcement of the birth of Jesus came in a completely unexpected way. Instead of announcing the birth of the Savior in the halls of power or the seats of religion, God chose for a group of shepherds on the outskirts of Bethlehem to be the first to hear of Christ's birth. The announcement from angels to the shepherds watching over their flocks was significant not only because of the message they gave, but also for the people to whom it was given.

Shepherds spent their days on the fringes of society taking care of animals. Living on the outskirts made it difficult for these shepherds to make it to synagogue and participate in the daily spiritual life of their community. Because these shepherds constantly worked with livestock and were regularly exposed to manure and dead animals, they would have been considered unclean according to Jewish law.

It was no accident that God choose often overlooked and outcast shepherds as the ones to whom the angels would give the announcement of Jesus' birth. This announcement was a powerful statement about the nature of the kingdom of God. God's kingdom is for all people, and no one is outside of God's plan to know of His love.

The long expected announcement was remarkable. Jesus had been born in the city of David for all people. Three significant titles are used here to describe why that is good news for all people. First, Jesus is the Savior—the one who rescues people from sin. Next, He is the **Messiah**, the Anointed One of God who came to lead God's people into God's kingdom. Finally, He is the Lord, the ruler of all the universe.

The shepherds' response to this glorious news included curiosity, awe, and obedience. This Christmas, may we do everything we can to see Jesus, adore Him for who He is, and boldly proclaim the truth that Jesus is Savior, **Messiah**, and the Lord.

JUNIOR SHEPHERD HIGHLIGHT

Shepherds lived and worked far away from towns, spending their time taking care of sheep. Because they were always outside and around dirty animals, people often thought they were “unclean” and didn’t let them fully participate in religious activities. **Many** people looked down on them.

But God chose these ordinary, overlooked shepherds to be the first ones to hear the angels announce Jesus’ birth. This wasn’t an accident—God was showing that His kingdom is for everyone, even those others might ignore.

The angel’s message was amazing: Jesus had been born in the city of David, and His birth was good news for all people. The angel used three important titles to explain who Jesus is:

- **Savior** — the one who saves people from their sins
- **Messiah** — God’s chosen leader who would guide His people
- **Lord** — the ruler over everything in the universe

The shepherds reacted with curiosity, amazement, and obedience. They hurried to see Jesus for themselves.

This Christmas, we can respond the same way—by seeking Jesus, worshiping Him, and sharing the truth that He is our **Savior, Messiah, and Lord.**

OUTLINE



Welcome and Intro Activity

5 minutes

Welcome the children and mark them as present on the attendance sheet on the clipboard. by the door.

- On a table inside the room door, place the Big Picture Question Poster, blocks, and the manger scene figures and animals. Invite the children to the prepared table with blocks and manger scene figures. Guide the children to use the materials provided to build their own manger scene. As the children build a stable and arrange the people figures, ask them to tell you about the various people in the Bible's Christmas story.
- **SAY** Merry Christmas, friends! It makes me happy to be able to see you at Christmastime. Christmas is when we celebrate the birth of Jesus. You have done such a good job of building a manger scene with the blocks and the figures. Tell me what you already know about the birth of Jesus. [Allow responses.] In our Bible story today, we are going to hear what happened when Jesus was born. Our big picture question and answer says, How can we glorify God? We can glorify God by loving and obeying Him. Jesus came to rescue us from sin.

Circle Time and Bible Story

10 minutes

Thinking Activity

- Talk about situations where something or someone may need to be rescued, such as someone who got lost in the woods or a kitten stuck in the top of a tree. Introduce the story point that Jesus came to rescue us from sin. **SAY** These are all rescue stories! Did you know that the Christmas story is also a rescue story? Jesus came to rescue us from sin. We sin when we choose to disobey our parents, hurt our friends, or tell a lie. Our sin has consequences. But God sent His Son, Jesus, to take the punishment for our sin. Listen closely to learn more.

Bible Story

- During the time **Mary** was waiting for Baby Jesus to be born, the emperor of Rome sent out an order: "Everyone must return to his hometown to be counted!" Joseph and **Mary** traveled to Bethlehem. While they were there, the time came for **Mary** to have her baby. **Mary** and Joseph looked for a safe place for **Mary** to have her baby, but every place was full. So, **Mary** and Joseph found a place where animals were kept, and that is where **Mary** had her baby, Jesus. She wrapped Him in cloth so He would be snug and warm, and she laid Him in a manger. In the same area, some shepherds were watching their sheep out in the fields. All of a sudden, an angel of the Lord stood before them and a bright line shone around them. The angel said to them, "Don't be afraid! I have very good news for you: Today a Savior, who is **Messiah** the Lord, was born for you in the city of David. Go find the baby. He will be wrapped in cloth and lying in a feeding trough." The shepherds went straight to Bethlehem to find Baby Jesus.



- They found Him, and they told others what the angel had said about Him. Then the shepherds returned to their fields, praising God because everything had happened just as the angels said.

Review Activity

- Tell the children that you are going to ask several review questions. Instruct them that you will give them two answer options and they must stand on one side of the room or another based on which they think is correct. Questions may include: Where did **Mary** and Joseph travel? (to Bethlehem or to Walmart) What was **Mary** ready to do when they got to Bethlehem? (have a baby or eat a pretzel) Where did **Mary** have her baby? (in a place where animals stayed or at her house) What did **Mary** call her baby? (Jesus or Daniel) Who did the angels appear to? (shepherds or the wise men) What did the angels tell the shepherds? (A special baby was born in Bethlehem or they baked a cake) What did the shepherds do after the angel left? (They hurried to Bethlehem or they took a nap) What did the shepherds do after they saw Jesus? (They told others about Jesus or they went shopping)
- **SAY** While **Mary** and Joseph were in Bethlehem, Jesus was born. Shepherds came to visit Baby Jesus. They were so happy that Jesus was born that they went told others about Jesus. Jesus was born! This is very good news because Jesus came to rescue us from sin.

Movement Activity

10 minutes

Lead children to form a line and travel through “Bethlehem” by walking around the room while singing carols. Stop to ask questions about **Mary** and Joseph’s journey. Discuss what the journey may have been like for the shepherds.

SAY What do you think that it was like in Bethlehem when Joseph and **Mary** traveled there? [Allow responses.] Joseph and **Mary** didn’t have cars to drive on the roads, but toy cars are fun to play with today. **Mary** and Joseph traveled to Bethlehem because the king said everyone needed to go to their own town to be counted. While they were there, Baby Jesus was born. This is very good news because Jesus came to rescue us from sin.

Craft

5-7 minutes

Handprint Nativity

- Give each child four paper hands and a Baby Jesus. Help the children to overlap the palms and glue them together. Glue the Baby Jesus to the middle of the handprints to make him look like he is lying in a manger.





- **SAY** When Baby Jesus was born, his mother wrapped him up and laid him in a manger. We probably wouldn't think to put a baby somewhere that animals eat, but there was nowhere for his family to stay. She had no crib or baby bed to put him in so she laid him in the manger to sleep.

Music

5 minutes

You will find music and other video resources on the USB which is already plugged into the TV. Feel free to play the videos in any order you like! You may distribute the Activity Page for the children to complete at this time, if they would prefer to sit and listen to the music.

Friends From Afar

5-7 minutes

You will find today's activity for Friends from Afar in the Binder on the counter. The information for this month's Global Partner family and an activity to learn about where they are serving are included.

Prayer and Bible Verse

10 minutes

Prayer (Use these words, or your own, to pray about today's Bible lesson. Take time to listen to prayer requests from the children and pray for them as well!)

- God, thank You so much for sending Jesus from heaven to earth to rescue us from our sin. This Christmas season, help us glorify You for this amazing gift. Help us share this good news with our friends and family. Amen.

Bible Verse

- "And he will be called Wonderful Counsellor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace" Isaiah 9:6
 - Teach the children the motions for this verse.
 - And he will be called- point one finger to your mouth
 - Wonderful Counsellor- tap your temples
 - Mighty God- flex your arms like muscles
 - Everlasting Father- tap your wrist (like a watch)
 - Prince of peace- hold your hands in front of your chest like you are praying
- Have the kids join you in saying the verse and doing the motions several times to practice. Ask the children if anyone would like to do the verse on their own. If someone needs help, have them pick a friend or do it with them. If no one volunteers, repeat as a class twice more.





Snack and Discussion Time

5-7 minutes

Have children sanitize their hands before passing out snacks and cups of water. During this time, you can connect with children and discuss questions regarding the lesson.

1. What did you like about the Bible story? (Answers will vary.)
2. What were some things in the Bible story that made you happy or sad? (Answers will vary.)
3. Whose birth do we celebrate at Christmastime? (Jesus)
4. Why do we celebrate Jesus's birth? (Because Jesus came to rescue us from sin.)
5. How can we glorify God this Christmas season? (Sing praises to Him, obey Him, pray to Him, tell others about Him)
6. How can we glorify God? We can glorify God by loving Him and obeying Him.

SAY Mary and Joseph traveled to Bethlehem to be counted. While they were there, Jesus was born. Mary wrapped Him in cloth placed Him in a manger. Jesus came to rescue us from sin. An angel came to some shepherds and told them to go to Jesus, and they did. The shepherds told others the good news of Jesus and praised His name! Jesus was not like other babies; He is God's Son. God sent Jesus to earth from heaven to save people from their sins.

Additional Activities

As Needed

- Using the tubes and balls from the first service bin, guide children to take their tube and stand in a line, side-by-side. Place a bucket with table tennis balls at one end, and an empty bucket at the other end. Challenge children to hold up their section of the paper tube with the rest of the children to make a path, so the ball can travel down and land in the empty bucket. Encourage the children to play this game by trying to "rescue" as many balls as possible by allowing the balls to roll down the path and into the other bucket.
- **SAY** What a fun game! You rescued the balls. Do you remember from our Bible story who needs rescuing? [Allow responses.] We all need rescuing from our sin. Jesus came to rescue us from sin. This good news is really something to celebrate!



Lead Shepherds to Jesus

INSTRUCTIONS: Angels appeared to shepherds and told them Jesus was born in Bethlehem. Help the shepherds follow the path and find Baby Jesus.



NAME: _____



the **GOSPEL** PROJECT.



Jesus Is Our Rescuer

Luke 2

STORY POINT:

Jesus came to rescue us from sin.

CHRIST CONNECTION:

Jesus was born! This is very good news because Jesus is God's Son who came to earth to save people from their sins.

KEY PASSAGE PHRASE:

Do everything for the glory of God.

1 Corinthians 10:31

BIG PICTURE QUESTION:

How can we glorify God? We can glorify God by loving and obeying Him.

Scan the QR code
for resources to
use at home!

