WEEK

ONE

Small Group Leader Guide

Today's Suggested Schedule

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 minutes)

Social: Providing time for fun interaction

1. Opening Activity

Large Group (35 minutes)

Worship: Inviting people to respond to God Story: Communicating God's truth in engaging ways

- → Opener
- → Worship
- → Bible Story (sections about God's Big Story are listed as optional)
- → Prayer

Small Group (25 minutes)

Groups: Creating a safe place to connect

- 1. Bible Story Review: Take a Snapshot
- 2. Application Activity: Bible Story Extension and **Discussion Questions**
- 3. Memory Verse Activity: Verses to Take with You
- 4. Prayer Activity: Make It Personal with Prayer

Home: Prompting action beyond the experience

- → Devotionals for Kids
- → Parent Cue Card (print or email)
- → Parent Cue App and ParentCue.org



🔆 Need activities for a K-5th group? Check out the 2nd-3rd grade guide.





Today's Bible Story

Jesus Is Promised Isaiah 9:6-7, Micah 5:2

Bottom Line

Jesus is good news for everyone.

Conversation Starter

What's the best news you've ever heard?

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

Inclusive Pro Tips

This leader guide is created with inclusion in mind. It supports children with learning differences, disabilities, or special needs as they participate alongside their peers. Look for the highlighted sections for extra tips to help welcome and include every child. For more resources. check out our free A Place at the Table course with Kim Botto and EveryChild Curriculum. joinamazing.com/everychild

Small Group

December — Week 1

SOCIAL

Opening Activity



What You Need

- □ Offering container
- □ Timer
- ☐ "Clues" Activity Page
- ☐ Masking tape

Inclusive Pro Tips

To adjust to the mobility needs of your group, place the cards on a table and let the kids collect them from a seated position as they try to guess the answer.

1 What You Do

Pray for your group before they arrive → Pray for kids who will visit your group for the first time. Invite God to prepare every preteen's heart to hear the truth that Jesus is good news for everyone—including them! Pray for any new kids who might be curious or unsure that they would feel welcomed and included. Thank God for the promises He made long ago, and for keeping every single one through Jesus. Ask the Holy Spirit to help preteens see that following Jesus isn't about having it all together; it's about trusting the One who came to save us all.

- 1. Welcome kids by name as they arrive with a high-five, fist bump, or a wave.
- 2. Invite any kids who brought an offering to place it in the offering container.
- 3. Before you begin, tape the "Clues" Activity Page cards around your group area.
- 4. Divide the kids into small teams.
- 5. Invite the teams to spread out.
- 6. Explain how to play:
 - → When you say "Go," one kid from each team runs to a clue, grabs a card, brings it back, and tags the next teammate.
 - → The teams are to collect as many clues as they can before the time is up in one minute.
 - → Once all the clues have been collected, the teams will sit together and try to find the answer the clues point to. (Jesus!)
- 7. Set a timer for 60 seconds.
- 8. Signal the first kids to begin.
- 9. Stop the timer after 60 seconds.
- 10. Encourage the teams to sit together, go through their clues, and see if they can name Who the clues are about. (Jesus!)
- 11. When the game is over, instruct the kids to gather together.

Continued on the next page. →

Small Group

December — Week 1

SOCIAL

Opening Activity



What You Need

- □ Offering container
- □ Timer
- ☐ "Clues" Activity Page
- ☐ Masking tape



Inclusive Pro Tips

To adjust to the mobility needs of your group, place the cards on a table and let the kids collect them from a seated position as they try to guess the answer.

② What You Say

"Awesome job collecting all of the clues, friends! These clues might not tell us the whole story, but they point to something really important that happened in our true story from the Bible today. *[Transition]* Just like these clues, God gave His people promises a long time ago about something amazing He was going to do ... and He had the whole plan in motion even before anyone could see it! Let's go discover more!"

Transition → Lead your group to the Large Group area.

Small Group

December — Week 1

GROUPS 1/5

Take a Snapshot



Application Activity

Faith Skills

Hear from God

Pray to God

Talk about God

Live for God

What You Need

- □ Prepared dominoes with cardstock cutouts taped to them
- □ Pencils



Inclusive Pro Tips

For kids with limited mobility, allow kids to build the domino pattern from a seated position or on a tabletop close to them.

1 What You Do

- 1. Divide the kids into three groups.
- 2. Give each group a pencil and 8 dominoes. The dominoes should have the cardstock taped to them.
 - → Make sure each group has one "Jesus will come" domino and one "Jesus is born" domino.
- On the other dominoes, encourage the kids to write or draw ways Jesus is good news (for example, He forgives, His love is for everyone, He heals, He gives peace, He saves, and He is always with us).
- 4. Instruct the groups to set up their dominoes in a creative pattern, placing the "Jesus will come" domino at the front, and the "Jesus is born" domino right behind it. The rest of the dominoes can go in any order.
- 5. When ready, instruct the kids to knock over the first domino and watch the chain reaction, showing how God's plan to send Jesus spread the good news to everyone.
- 6. Optional: If time allows, let the kids build a domino line together with all of their dominoes.
- 7. Gather the kids to discuss.

Talk Together

- 1. Ask: How does it make you feel to know the good news of Jesus is for everyone?
- 2. Tell the kids: "When we tipped over that first domino, the good news spread through the whole line. That's what happened when Jesus came! The good news began to spread from Bethlehem and is still spreading TODAY. And here's another incredible part: YOU are part of that story! God can use you to help others know Jesus is good news for them too."
- 3. Ask: What are some of the Christmas decorations or evidence of Christmas that you see throughout your day?
- 4. Say: "This season, there's a built-in way you can start a conversation with Jesus with someone! The whole world is having a party—a Christmas party! Even if people don't believe it, Jesus is the reason for the season. Every light, every decoration, every Christmas cookie is celebrating Him. God loves us so much that He sent Jesus to rescue us so we could be His close friends! So if there's a Christmas decoration around, you can say, 'Hey, why do we celebrate Christmas? Did you know that God loves you so much?' That's a great way to start a conversation about Jesus!"
- 5. Ask: Who can you tell about the good news of Jesus this month?

Small Group

December — Week 1

GROUPS 2/5

Bible Story Extension

Bible Story Review



Faith Skills

Hear from God

Pray to God

Talk about God

Live for God

What You Need

- "Prophecies Fulfilled" Activity Page
- ☐ Floor tape

Inclusive Pro Tips

To adjust to the mobility of your group, let the kids match the cards from a seated position.

(1) What You Do

- 1. Before you begin, mark three taped lines on one side of your group area.
- 2. Divide the kids into three groups.
- 3. Instruct each group to stand behind a taped line.
- 4. Place the two "Fulfillment Cards" from the "Prophecies Fulfilled" Activity Page a few feet away from each group.
- 5. Give each group the two "Prophecy Cards" from the "Prophecy Fulfilled" Activity Page.
- 6. Explain the goal:
 - → One at a time, a kid from each team will travel to retrieve a "Prophecy Fulfilled" card. Once both "Prophecy Fulfilled" cards are collected, the team is to work together to match each prophecy with its fulfillment.
- Once the matches are made, quickly review each pair, pointing out how God's plan in the Old Testament came true in the New Testament.
- 8. Ask: "Which prophecy from today's activity amazed you the most? Why?"
- 9. Share with the group:
 - → "The Old Testament is before Jesus was born, and the New Testament tells what happened when He came and after. Even though they were written at different times, both parts are telling one big story: God's plan to save us through Jesus."
 - → "These prophecies from Isaiah and Micah were written hundreds of years before Jesus was born, and yet they happened exactly like God said. That's not just a good guess; that's God proving His Word is true and God always keeps His promises!"

Make It Personal → Share about what Jesus means to you! Who taught you about Jesus? How does knowing Jesus still change your life today? Share age-appropriately.

Small Group

December — Week 1



GROUPS 3/5

Discussion Questions



Bible Story Review

Faith Skills

Hear from God

Pray to God

Talk about God

Live for God

What You Need

No supplies needed

Inclusive Supplies

- □ Dry-erase marker
- □ Dry-erase board

Inclusive Pro Tips

Be sensitive to kids who may need extra time to process their thoughts and respond. Be patient and create a safe space where everyone has a chance to share when they're ready.

Frequently check for understanding during discussion by asking questions like, "Can someone share in their own words what we're talking about?"

1 What You Do

- 1. What's the best news you've ever heard?
- 2. Why do you think God told His people about Jesus hundreds of years before He was born?
- 3. How do you think God feels about you since He worked hundreds and hundreds of years to bring His great rescue plan for you?
- 4. If someone asked you why we celebrate Christmas, how would you explain it using today's Bible Story?

Small Group

December — Week 1

GROUPS 4/5

Verses to Take with You



Memory Verse Activity

Faith Skills

Hear from God

Pray to God

Talk about God

Live for God

What You Need

□ Bibles

Inclusive Supplies

- □ Dry-erase marker
- □ Dry-erase board



Inclusive Pro Tips

Consider performing the motions from a seated position to adjust to the mobility needs in your group.

Use the dry-erase marker and board to write the verse for visual learners to see.

1 What You Do

- 1. Give every two kids a Bible.
- 2. Invite them to look up Luke 2:11 using the Bible Navigation Tips below.

*Finding verses with 4th-5th graders

- (1) Ask kids to tell you if the book of the Bible they're looking for is in the Old Testament or New Testament. If it's in the Old, instruct kids to flip slowly, starting at the front of the Bible and heading toward the back, until they find the book they're looking for. If it's in the New, instruct kids to start flipping from the back, going forward to find the book they're looking for.
- (2) When they find the book, explain that the big numbers on the page are the chapter numbers.
- 3 Once they find the chapter, explain that the small numbers are verse numbers. Tell kids to find the verse within the chapter they've already found.
- 3. Repeat the verse together several times.
- 4. Review any words that might be unfamiliar to the kids, like 'Messiah':
 - → "Messiah" is a special title that means: "Anointed One" or "Chosen One."
 - → A long time before Jesus was born, God promised His people that He would send someone to rescue them, to make things right, so they could be close to God again. That person would be the Messiah!
 - → This verse that we shared today is part of the message the angel delivered to the shepherds that Jesus is the Messiah! The angel was saying: "This is the One God promised! He's the Rescuer, the forever King, the one we've all been waiting for to make us right with God again!"
- Set the Bibles aside and teach the kids this month's verse motions. (The NIrV and NIV for Luke 2:11 are very similar, except for punctuation.)

Continued on the next page. →

Small Group

December — Week 1

GROUPS 4/5

Verses to Take with You





Memory Verse Activity

Faith Skills

Hear from God

Pray to God

Talk about God

Live for God

What You Need

□ Bibles

Inclusive Supplies

- □ Dry-erase marker
- ☐ Dry-erase board



Inclusive Pro Tips

Consider performing the motions from a seated position to adjust to the mobility needs in your group.

Use the dry-erase marker and board to write the verse for visual learners to see.

"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.

- 6. Repeat the motions until the kids have learned them.
- 7. Call on several kids to try the motions on their own while they say the Memory Verse!
- 8. Ask:
 - → If you were one of the shepherds hearing this news for the first time, what would you do next?
 - → How can you remember that Jesus is the reason for the season this Christmas?

Preteen Small Group

December — Week 1

GROUPS 5/5

Make it Personal with Prayer



Prayer Activity

Faith Skills

Hear from God

Pray to God

Talk about God

Live for God

What You Need

No supplies needed

Inclusive Supplies

- ☐ Index cards
- □ Pencils



Inclusive Pro Tips

Give each kid a pencil or an index card who would rather write or doodle to God. Suggest they draw symbols like a heart or a cross.

1 What You Do

- 1. Gather the kids together in a circle.
- 2. Explain that prayer is a conversation they can have with God anytime, anywhere, about anything!
- Invite the kids to close their eyes, take a deep breath, and silently think about the truth that God worked for years and years to send Jesus to rescue them, so that they could be His close friend.
- 4. Encourage them to listen in their hearts for anything they might want to say to God.
- 5. Ask the kids if they'd like to share any prayer requests with the group.
- 6. Close in prayer.

Small Group

December — Week 1

Getting Ready

Social

Welcome the kids and spend time engaging in conversation and catching up. Use this time to create space for them to connect with you and with each other by playing age-appropriate games, asking fun questions, and encouraging friendly interactions. This is a great moment to help kids feel seen, known, and ready to experience today's story.

Groups

Create a safe place to connect and learn how the Bible story applies to real life experiences, through interactive activities and discussion questions.

→ Choose as many of these activities as you like.

Home

- → Print on cardstock or email this week's devotionals and Parent Cue cards.
- → Tell parents about our additional family resources: Parent Cue App

Social

Opening Activity

☐ Offering container

☐ Timer, one for each Small Group

 Print "Clues" Activity Page on paper and cut apart, one set for each Small Group

☐ Masking tape, one roll for each Small Group

Groups

1. Take a Snapshot

□ Dominoes, 24 for each Small Group

☐ Pencils, three for each Small Group

☐ White cardstock, two sheets for each Small Group

☐ Masking tape, one roll for each Small Group

Before group time:

☐ Cut 24 pieces of cardstock into rectangles the size of a domino.

☐ Tape each piece of cardstock to a domino.

☐ Label three dominoes in pencil: Jesus will come.

☐ Label three dominoes in pencil: Jesus is born.

2. Bible Story Extension

☐ Print "Prophecies Fulfilled" Activity Page on paper and cut apart, three sets for each Small Group

☐ Floor tape

3. Discussion Questions

No supplies needed

4. Verses to Take with You

☐ Bibles, one for every two kids

Inclusive Supplies:

□ Dry-erase marker

□ Dry-erase board

5. Make It Personal with Prayer

No supplies needed

Inclusive Supplies:

Index cards

□ Pencils

WEEK



Small Group Leader Guide

Today's Suggested Schedule

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 minutes)

Social: Providing time for fun interaction

1. Opening Activity

Large Group (35 minutes)

Worship: Inviting people to respond to God Story: Communicating God's truth in engaging ways

- → Opener
- → Worship
- → Bible Story (sections about God's Big Story are listed as optional)
- → Prayer

Small Group (25 minutes)

Groups: Creating a safe place to connect

- 1. Bible Story Review: Take a Snapshot
- 2. Application Activity: Bible Story Extension and **Discussion Questions**
- 3. Memory Verse Activity: Verses to Take with You
- 4. Prayer Activity: Make It Personal with Prayer

Home: Prompting action beyond the experience

- → Devotionals for Kids
- → Parent Cue Card (print or email)
- → Parent Cue App and ParentCue.org



🔆 Need activities for a K-5th group? Check out the 2nd-3rd grade guide.





Today's Bible Story

Gabriel Visits Mary Luke 1:5-66

Bottom Line

God always had a plan to send Jesus.

Conversation Starter

What are your plans this Christmas?

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

Inclusive Pro Tips

This leader guide is created with inclusion in mind. It supports children with learning differences, disabilities, or special needs as they participate alongside their peers. Look for the highlighted sections for extra tips to help welcome and include every child. For more resources. check out our free A Place at the Table course with Kim Botto and EveryChild Curriculum.

joinamazing.com/everychild

Small Group

December — Week 2

SOCIAL

Opening Activity



What You Need

Offering contai	iner
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- ☐ "Headline Strips" Activity Page
- □ Pencils
- □ Coloring supplies

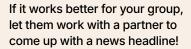
① What You Do

Pray for your group before they arrive → Pray for kids who will visit your group for the first time. Ask God to remind you (and your group) that God is good and that He is always working for good. Pray for any visitors that they would find a safe place in your group to wonder and ask questions. Thank God for inviting ordinary people like Mary into His extraordinary rescue plan. Ask the Holy Spirit to help preteens recognize that God's great love for them led Him to work for years and years so they could be close friends with Him again! And because He loves them so much, He is always working for good in their lives, and they can trust Him!

- 1. Welcome kids by name as they arrive with a high-five, fist bump, or a wave.
- 2. Invite any kids who brought an offering to place it in the offering container.
- 3. Spread the "Headline Strips" Activity Pages out on the floor or on a table.
- 4. As the kids arrive, explain to them that a headline is like a chapter or a story's title.
- 5. Set out the pencils.
- Instruct each kid to pick a headline from the "Headline Strips"
 Activity Page and guess what happens next in the story (or fill in the blank) by writing their answers on the paper under the headline.
- 7. Encourage the kids to get creative.
- 8. Gather the kids together and let them share their headline strips and guesses with the group.

Continued on the next page. →

Inclusive Pro Tips



Small Group

December — Week 2

SOCIAL

Opening Activity



What You Need

- □ Offering container
- ☐ "Headline Strips" Activity Page
- □ Pencils
- □ Coloring supplies

② What You Say

"You all came up with some creative Christmas stories, friends! We might not always know what's next, but we can know that God is always working toward something good! God is always working on writing a good story! Today, we'll look at a true story that He worked on for years and years because He loves us—His amazing plan to send Jesus to rescue us so we could be close to Him again!

[Transition] "In today's true story from the Bible, we'll discover how an angel visited Mary, Jesus' mother, to tell her that she would be giving birth to the Savior of the WORLD! It's a pretty epic story, and it was all a part of God's BIG plan that God had been working and working on throughout history. Let's go find out more!"

Transition → Lead your group to the Large Group area.

Inclusive Pro Tips



If it works better for your group, let them work with a partner to come up with a news headline!

Small Group

December — Week 2

GROUPS 1/5

Take a Snapshot



Application Activity

Faith Skills

Hear from God

Pray to God

Talk about God

Live for God

What You Need

- ☐ Butcher paper
- ☐ Markers and large crayons
- $\hfill\square$ Device for playing worship music

Inclusive Pro Tips

If kids in your group need more personal space, consider using more than one piece of butcher paper to spread them out.

① What You Do

- 1. Before you begin, tape the butcher paper on a wall or across the floor.
- 2. Tell kids this is the "Jesus Graffiti Wall."
- 3. Play the worship music softly.
- 4. Invite the kids to write or draw words, doodles, or symbols of truths they know about Jesus.
 - → For example, Jesus came for everyone, Jesus is God's Son, I can trust God because He is good, I can say "yes!" to God like Mary did, etc.
- 5. As they work, ask them questions like:
 - → If you were making a headline about Jesus—a big, bold statement hitting the main point you want to make for the whole world to see—what would it say?

Small Group

December — Week 2

GROUPS 2/5

Bible Story Extension



Bible Story Review

Faith Skills

Hear from God

Pray to God

Talk about God

Live for God

What You Need

- ☐ Butcher paper with a news desk drawn on it
- ☐ "Emoji News Cards" Activity Page
- ☐ Bible marked at Luke 1:5-66
- □ Tape



Inclusive Pro Tips

Consider playing this game in pairs or groups of three if it works better for the kids in your group to play with a supportive friend.

To accommodate your group's mobility, play this activity from a seated position. Kids can raise their cards in the air instead of 'delivering' them.

1 What You Do

- Before you begin, tape the butcher paper with a news desk drawn on it to a wall in your group area (or place it on the floor).
- 2. Gather the kids on the opposite end of your group area.
- 3. Give each kid one of the "Emoji News Cards" and a piece of tape.
- 4. Show them how to loop a piece of tape double-sided and place it on the back of their card.
- 5. Explain how to play:
 - → Show the kids the butcher paper "news desk."
 - → Explain that you will read the Bible Story aloud in short sections.
 - → When part of the Bible Story matches their card, that kid will quickly run to the "news desk" to deliver it.
- Read through the Bible, pausing to make sure the appropriate card is put on the news desk at the appropriate time. (The cards are numbered, so that should help keep things in order!)
- 7. Continue until all the cards have been taped in story order.
 - → If you have more than 10 kids in your group, assign multiple kids to one of the "Emoji News Cards." If you have fewer than 10 kids in your group, a kid can have more than one card from the "Emoji News Cards" Activity Page. Just make sure all of the "Emoji News Cards" are assigned.

Make It Personal → Share your plans that you have this Christmas with family and friends. Do you serve or give gifts to others to remind them of Jesus' love for them?

Story Matches

2. 6 5 6 1:8-20

3. **& Fig.** Luke 1:23-25

(The last emoji represents the tablet Zechariah likely wrote on.)

4. 6 2 20 Luke 1:26-29

5. **■ ↓ ¼ ¼ 1** Luke 1:30-33

6. **△**₩**☑**₩ Luke 1:34-37

7. V N Luke 1:38

8. 6 8 9 1 Luke 1:39-45

9. PNO Luke 1:46-55

10. ♥**②■•** Luke 1:57-66

Small Group

December — Week 2

GROUPS 3/5

Discussion Questions





Bible Story Review

Faith Skills

Hear from God

Pray to God

Talk about God

Live for God

What You Need

No supplies needed

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Inclusive Pro Tips

Be sensitive to kids who may need extra time to process their thoughts and respond. Be patient and create a safe space where everyone has a chance to share when they're ready.

Frequently check for understanding during discussion by asking questions like, "Can someone share in their own words what we're talking about?"

1 What You Do

- 1. What are your plans this Christmas?
- 2. Since God worked on His great rescue plan for years and years to pay for sin so He could be your close friend, how does that show He feels about you?
- 3. Why is Jesus the best news we could share?
- 4. If you could tell one friend or family member the good news about Jesus, what would you want them to know first?

Small Group

December — Week 2

GROUPS 4/5

Verses to Take with You





Memory Verse Activity

Faith Skills

Hear from God Pray to God

Talk about God Live for God

What You Need

- □ Bibles
- □ Dry-erase board and marker

1 What You Do

- Before you begin, write Luke 2:11 on the dry-erase board and erase several words. The kids will identify the missing words during this activity.
- 2. Give every kid a Bible and invite them to look up Luke 2:11.

*Finding verses with 4th-5th graders

- Ask kids to tell you if the book of the Bible they're looking for is in the Old Testament or New Testament. If it's in the Old, instruct kids to flip slowly, starting at the front of the Bible and heading toward the back, until they find the book they're looking for. If it's in the New, instruct kids to start flipping from the back, going forward to find the book they're looking for.
- (2) When they find the book, explain that the big numbers on the page are the chapter numbers.
- ③ Once they find the chapter, explain that the small numbers are verse numbers. Tell kids to find the verse within the chapter they've already found.
- 3. Repeat the verse together several times.
- 4. Review any words that might be unfamiliar to the kids, like 'Messiah.' If you have a lot of returning kids from week 1, ask them what 'Messiah' means. If not, use this recap to share:
 - → "Messiah" is a special title that means: "Anointed One" or "Chosen One."
 - → A long time before Jesus was born, God promised His people that He would send someone to rescue them, to make things right, so they could be close to God again. That person would be the Messiah!
 - → This verse that we shared today is part of the message the angel delivered to the shepherds that Jesus is the Messiah! The angel was saying: "This is the One God promised! He's the Rescuer, the forever King, the One we've all been waiting for to make us right with God again!"
- 5. Put the Bibles away.
- 6. Gather the kids together in front of the dry-erase board.
- 7. Let them take turns guessing the missing words from the verse.
- 8. Continue changing the missing words and calling on various kids to guess them.
- 9. Ask:
- 10. The verse says a Savior has been born "to you." How does it feel knowing Jesus came for YOU personally?
- 11. If you had to share this verse with a friend in your own words, what would you say?

Small Group

December — Week 2

GROUPS 5/5

Make It Personal with Prayer

Reflect

Prayer Activity

Faith Skills

Hear from God

Pray to God

Talk about God

Live for God

What You Need

- □ Index cards
- □ Pencils

Inclusive Pro Tips

Give kids the option to doodle to God if writing is difficult for them.

1 What You Do

- 1. Give every kid an index card and a pencil.
- 2. Invite them to reflect on today's [Bottom Line] God always had a plan to send Jesus.
- 3. Lead a salvation conversation with the kids.
 - → Say: "God always had a plan to send Jesus. That plan wasn't just for Mary or the shepherds or the people living back then. It was for YOU too! God's plan has always been to make a way for us to be close to Him, and that's why He sent Jesus."
 - → "The truth is, we all mess up (that's called sin). Sin keeps us from being close to God. BUT God's plan was to send Jesus to take the punishment for our sin so we could be close friends with God again! When you believe in Jesus, you're saying, 'I know You died for me, and I want to follow You.' That's the BEST news you could ever accept. If you've never told Jesus you believe in Him and want to follow Him, you can do that anytime, even right now, as you pray."
- 4. Encourage the kids to take a quiet moment to talk to God.
 - → Say: "Take a quiet moment. You might want to thank God for sending Jesus. You might want to write a prayer telling Jesus you believe in Him and want to follow Him! Or you might just want to tell God what you're feeling right now."
- 5. Instruct the kids to use the index card and a pencil to write a prayer to God.
- 6. Spend some time in quiet prayer.

Small Group

December — Week 2

Getting Ready

Social

Welcome the kids and spend time engaging in conversation and catching up. Use this time to create space for them to connect with you and with each other by playing age-appropriate games, asking fun questions, and encouraging friendly interactions. This is a great moment to help kids feel seen, known, and ready to experience today's story.

Groups

Create a safe place to connect and learn how the Bible story applies to real life experiences, through interactive activities and discussion questions.

→ Choose as many of these activities as you like.

Home

- → Print on cardstock or email this week's devotionals and Parent Cue cards.
- → Tell parents about our additional family resources: Parent Cue App

Social

Opening Activity ☐ Offering container ☐ Print "Headline Str

□ Print "Headline Strips" Activity Page on paper and cut apart, one card for every kid

☐ Pencils, one for every kid

 $\hfill\square$ Coloring supplies, enough for each Small Group to share

Groups

1. Take a Snapshot

☐ Butcher paper, one large piece for each Small Group
☐ Markers and large crayons, enough for each Small Group to share

☐ Device for playing worship music, one for each Small Group

2. Bible Story Extension

☐ Butcher paper, one large piece for each Small Group			Butcher	paper,	one	large	piece	for	each	Small	Grou	р
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☐ Print "Emoji News Cards" Activity Page on cardstock and cut apart, one card for every kid

☐ Bible marked at Luke 1:5-66, one for each Small Group

☐ Tape, one roll for each Small Group

Before group time:

□ Draw a shape resembling a "news desk" on the piece of butcher paper. You will tape this on the wall or lay it on the floor in your group area.

3. Discussion Questions

No supplies needed

4. Verses to Take with You

- ☐ Bibles, one for every kid
- ☐ Dry-erase board and marker, one for each Small Group

5. Make It Personal with Prayer

- ☐ Index cards, one for every kid
- □ Pencils, one for every kid

Small Group

December — Week 2

Getting Ready

Social

Welcome the kids and spend time engaging in conversation and catching up. Use this time to create space for them to connect with you and with each other by playing age-appropriate games, asking fun questions, and encouraging friendly interactions. This is a great moment to help kids feel seen, known, and ready to experience today's story.

Groups

Create a safe place to connect and learn how the Bible story applies to real life experiences, through interactive activities and discussion questions.

- → Choose as many of these activities as you like.
- → * If you don't have time to do all these activities, be sure to do activity #3.

Home

- → Print on cardstock or email this week's devotionals and Parent Cue cards.
- → Tell parents about our additional family resources: Parent Cue App

WEEK

THREE

December — Week 3

Small Group Leader Guide

Today's Suggested Schedule

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 minutes)

Social: Providing time for fun interaction

1. Opening Activity

Large Group (35 minutes)

Worship: Inviting people to respond to God Story: Communicating God's truth in engaging ways

- → Opener
- → Worship
- → Bible Story (sections about God's Big Story are listed as optional)
- → Prayer

Small Group (25 minutes)

Groups: Creating a safe place to connect

- 1. Bible Story Review: Take a Snapshot
- 2. Application Activity: Bible Story Extension and **Discussion Questions**
- 3. Memory Verse Activity: Verses to Take with You
- 4. Prayer Activity: Make It Personal with Prayer

Home: Prompting action beyond the experience

- → Devotionals for Kids
- → Parent Cue Card (print or email)
- → Parent Cue App and ParentCue.org



🔆 Need activities for a K-5th group? Check out the 2nd-3rd grade guide.





Today's Bible Story

Jesus Is Born Luke 2:1-20

Bottom Line

Jesus is the greatest gift.

Conversation Starter

What's the best gift you've been given?

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

Inclusive Pro Tips

This leader guide is created with inclusion in mind. It supports children with learning differences, disabilities, or special needs as they participate alongside their peers. Look for the highlighted sections for extra tips to help welcome and include every child. For more resources. check out our free A Place at the Table course with Kim Botto and EveryChild Curriculum. joinamazing.com/everychild

Small Group

December — Week 3

SOCIAL

Opening Activity



What You Need

- □ Offering container
- □ Prepared gift bags
- ☐ Floor tape

Inclusive Supplies

 $\hfill\square$ Pool noodles or grabbers

Inclusive Pro Tips

To adjust to the mobility needs of your group, put the gift bags in the center of the room and let kids use grabbers or pool noodles to pull a gift bag toward their team's space.

1 What You Do

Pray for your group before they arrive → Thank God for each preteen who will join the group today, including those visiting for the first time. Ask the Holy Spirit to help your group feel that God loves them so much, He sent them Jesus! Pray that God would show you creative ways to challenge preteens to keep following and celebrating Jesus, in big and small ways, way beyond December.

- 1. Welcome kids by name as they arrive with a high-five, fist bump, or a wave.
- 2. Invite any kids who brought an offering to place it in the offering container.
- 3. Split the kids into two teams.
- 4. Mark a start and finish line for both teams with floor tape.
- 5. Place six gift bags at each team's finish line.
- 6. Explain how to play:
 - → On "Go!" one kid from each team will run to the other team's finish line, grab one gift bag, and bring it to their own finish line.
 - → Then, they will tag the next teammate to do the same.
 - → Kids can only carry one gift bag at a time.
 - → When you call time, the team with the most gift bags at their finish line wins.

② What You Say

"Whew! That game was FAST! You all were racing to get the most gifts, and you did a great job! [Transition] In our true story from the Bible today, we're going to hear about a gift that's completely different ... one you can't win, steal, or earn. God gave us the greatest gift of all time when He sent His Son, Jesus. God gave us Jesus because He loves us! And there's something else that's awesome about this great gift! This gift isn't just for a winning team—it's for everyone! Let's go find out more!"

Transition → Lead your group to the Large Group area.

Small Group

December — Week 3

GROUPS 1/5

Take a Snapshot



Application Activity

Faith Skills

Hear from God

Pray to God

Talk about God

Live for God

What You Need

- □ Prepared cut-out shapes from the Shrinky Dink paper
- □ Permanent markers in various colors
- ☐ Hole punch
- ☐ String or ribbon
- □ Oven or toaster oven

Inclusive Pro Tips



Provide adaptive grips to use with markers.

1 What You Do

- 1. Give every kid a Shrinky Dink cut-out shape.
- Say: In today's story, people were waiting for a Messiah
 ... a rescuer. When Jesus came, it showed that God had
 worked for years and years throughout history to bring Jesus
 because He loves us and He is good.
- 3. Ask:
 - → "How would you describe to other people why Jesus was the greatest gift they could ever receive?"
 - → "If Jesus is the greatest gift, what makes Him different from every other gift you've ever gotten?"
- 4. Set out the permanent markers.
- 5. Say: "Today we're going to make an ornament!"
- 6. Ask the kids to think of some of the greatest gifts or blessings in their lives. (Jesus, family, friends, etc.)
- 7. Invite the kids to write those gifts on their ornaments as you discuss.
- 8. Give the kids time to decorate their ornaments with the markers. Encourage them to add symbols from today's Bible Story (e.g., manger, crown, light, cross).
- 9. Make sure the kids write their names on the front or back of their Shrinky Dink.
- 10. While you collect the sheets to shrink after service, guide the group through a discussion.
- 11. NOTE: Bake Shrinky Dinks at 325 degrees for 1-3 minutes. Watch as they curl and flatten. Once flat, bake for an additional 30 seconds. Remove them from the oven and flatten further with a flat object if needed while still warm.

Talk Together

- 1. Why do you think Jesus is a gift that shows you that God loves you?
- 2. Explain to the kids that these ornaments are a reminder that God gave the world His VERY best: Jesus! Why was Jesus such a good gift?

Small Group

December — Week 3

GROUPS 2/5

Bible Story Extension





Bible Story Review

Faith Skills

Hear from God

Pray to God

Talk about God

Live for God

What You Need

☐ "Gift Giver" Activity Page

Inclusive Pro Tips

If the kids don't feel comfortable calling out their answers, let them hold up their chosen answer card instead!

1) What You Do

- 1. Divide the kids into three groups.
- 2. Give each group a set of "Gift Giver" Activity Page cards.
- 3. 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 a card from their pile that matches their guess. After a few tries, you'll reveal the answer!
- 4. One by one, read the clues below in an order different than the order listed below.
- 5. Continue until all the gifts have been guessed.

Make It Personal → Share why the gift of Jesus doesn't compare to any other gift you've ever received. Discuss another gift that you've gotten that you REALLY love. Then, explain how it still can't match what Jesus has given you.

Clues and Answers

- 1. Clue: This gift can't be bought, but it's the reason you can live forever with God. (answer: eternal life)
- 2. Clue: This gift wipes away your sins and makes you clean before God. (answer: forgiveness)
- 3. Clue: This gift never runs out, even when you feel far away from God. (answer: God's love)
- 4. 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)
- 6. Clue: This gift is what happens when you choose to follow Jesus. (answer: adoption into God's family)

Small Group

December — Week 3

GROUPS 3/5

Discussion Questions





Bible Story Review

Faith Skills

Hear from God

Pray to God

Talk about God

Live for God

What You Need

→ No supplies needed

Inclusive Pro Tips

Be sensitive to kids who may need extra time to process their thoughts and respond. Be patient and create a safe space where everyone has a chance to share when they're ready.

Frequently check for understanding during discussion by asking questions like, "Can someone share in their own words what we're talking about?"

(1) What You Do

- 1. What's the best gift you've been given?
- 2. If Jesus is the greatest gift, what makes Him different from every other gift you've ever gotten?
- 3. How does God giving you Jesus show His love for you?
- 4. How could you "pass on" this gift to someone else this Christmas?

Small Group

December — Week 3

GROUPS 4/5

Verses to Take with You



Memory Verse Activity

Faith Skills

Hear from God

Pray to God

Talk about God

Live for God

What You Need

- ☐ Bible marked at Luke 2:11
- ☐ Prepared "Verse Delivery" Activity Pages
- ☐ Floor tape

Inclusive Supplies

- □ Dry-erase marker
- ☐ Dry-erase board



Inclusive Pro Tips

For visual support, keep the verse written on a dry-erase board so kids who process language better visually can glance at it as they arrange their pages.

Give the teams the option to assemble the verse without racing if speed causes stress.

(1) What You Do

- 1. Before you begin, tape two start and finish lines in your group area
- 2. Divide the kids into two teams and direct them to stand behind a start line.
- Place a set of "Verse Delivery" Activity Pages at each team's finish line.
- 4. Select a kid to read Luke 2:11 from the marked Bible.
- 5. Repeat the verse together several times.
- 6. See if any kids remember the verse motions from Week 1.
- 7. (If you need a review, the motions are:
 - → "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.
- 8. Review the verse with the motions.
- 9. Explain how to play.
 - → One at a time, a kid from each team will travel quickly to grab a 'newspaper' and deliver the good news back to their team.
 - → Once a team has collected all of the 'newspapers,' they must work together to put the verse words in order.
- 10. Celebrate both teams and gather the kids to discuss!

Small Group

December — Week 3

GROUPS 5/5

Make It Personal with Prayer



Prayer Activity

Faith Skills

Hear from God

Pray to God

Talk about God

Live for God

What You Need

- ☐ "Extra! Extra!" Activity Page
- □ Pencils
- □ Coloring supplies

Inclusive Pro Tips

Encourage kids who have a harder time expressing themselves in writing to draw symbols or pictures instead. (i.e., a heart for love, a cross for Jesus, or a gift box for thankfulness).

1 What You Do

- 1. Gather the kids in a circle.
- Give each kid an "Extra! Extra!" Activity Page card and a pencil.
- 3. Place the pencils and coloring supplies in the center.
- 4. Explain that prayer is a conversation they can have with God anytime, anywhere about anything! It's how we show God that we love Him, trust Him, and are thankful for Him.
- 5. Encourage the kids to decorate the card and write their prayer to God in the blank space.
- 6. Use the following questions to guide their reflection before or while they write:
 - → What is something you want to thank God for this Christmas season?
 - → What do you want to tell Jesus today?
- 7. Close in prayer.

Small Group

December — Week 3

Getting Ready

Social

Welcome the kids and spend time engaging in conversation and catching up. Use this time to create space for them to connect with you and with each other by playing age-appropriate games, asking fun questions, and encouraging friendly interactions. This is a great moment to help kids feel seen, known, and ready to experience today's story.

Groups

Create a safe place to connect and learn how the Bible story applies to real life experiences, through interactive activities and discussion questions.

→ Choose as many of these activities as you like.

Home

- → Print on cardstock or email this week's devotionals and Parent Cue cards.
- → Tell parents about our additional family resources: Parent Cue App

Social

Opening Activity ☐ Offering container ☐ Christmas-themed gift bags, 12 for each Small Group ☐ Tissue paper, enough for the gift bags ☐ Floor tape, one roll for each Small Group Before group time: ☐ Fill the gift bags with tissue paper. **Groups** 1. Take a Snapshot ☐ Shrinky Dink sheets (like this: http://bit.ly/4nc4z8Y) ☐ Permanent markers (in various colors), enough for each Small Group to share ☐ Hole punch, one for each Small Group ☐ String or ribbon, one roll for each Small Group ☐ Oven or toaster oven, one for each Small Group Before group time: ☐ Pre-cut circles or ornament-like shapes out of the Shrinky Dink paper. ☐ Punch a hole at the top of each circle. ☐ Cut ribbon into 6-8-inch pieces. 2. Bible Story Extension ☐ Print "Gift Giver" Activity Page on paper and cut apart, three sets for each Small Group 3. Discussion Questions No supplies needed 4. Verses to Take with You ☐ Bible marked at Luke 2:11, one for each Small Group ☐ Print "Verse Delivery" Activity Page on paper, two sets for each Small ☐ 8-inch pieces of string or rubber bands, 12 for each Small Group Before group time: ☐ Roll each "Verse Delivery" page (art side facing out) and secure it with a piece of string or a rubber band. ☐ NOTE: Make sure to keep the two sets separate. Inclusive Supplies: □ Dry-erase marker □ Dry-erase board 5. Make It Personal with Prayer

☐ Coloring supplies, enough for the Small Group to share

every kid

□ Pencils, one for every kid

☐ Print "Extra! Extra!" Activity Page on cardstock and cut apart, one for

WEEK

FOUR

December — Week 4

Small Group Leader Guide

Today's Suggested Schedule

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 minutes)

Social: Providing time for fun interaction

1. Opening Activity

Large Group (35 minutes)

Worship: Inviting people to respond to God Story: Communicating God's truth in engaging ways

- → Opener
- → Worship
- → Bible Story (sections about God's Big Story are listed as optional)
- → Prayer

Small Group (25 minutes)

Groups: Creating a safe place to connect

- 1. Bible Story Review: Take a Snapshot
- 2. Application Activity: Bible Story Extension and **Discussion Questions**
- 3. Memory Verse Activity: Verses to Take with You
- 4. Prayer Activity: Make It Personal with Prayer

Home: Prompting action beyond the experience

- → Devotionals for Kids
- → Parent Cue Card (print or email)
- → Parent Cue App and ParentCue.org



🔆 Need activities for a K-5th group? Check out the 2nd-3rd grade guide.





Today's Bible Story

The Wise Men Visit Jesus **Matthew 2:1-12**

Bottom Line

Celebrate Jesus all year long.

Conversation Starter

How can you celebrate Jesus through the year?

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

Inclusive Pro Tips

This leader guide is created with inclusion in mind. It supports children with learning differences, disabilities, or special needs as they participate alongside their peers. Look for the highlighted sections for extra tips to help welcome and include every child. For more resources. check out our free A Place at the Table course with Kim Botto and EveryChild Curriculum. joinamazing.com/everychild

Small Group

December — Week 4

SOCIAL

Opening Activity



What You Need

□ Offering container



Inclusive Pro Tips

Adjust to the mobility of your group by playing this game from a seated position. Have the kids raise their right hand or left hand to represent their answers.

(1) What You Do

Pray for your group before they arrive → Pray for kids who will visit your group for the first time. Ask the Holy Spirit to help your group see that knowing Jesus isn't just for Christmas—knowing Jesus is for every day, every season, all year long because what was started at Christmas was God making a way for people to choose to be His friend. Ask God to help you show that the blessing of being God's friend goes way beyond Christmas. Pray that God would show you creative ways to challenge preteens to keep knowing, following, and celebrating Jesus, in big and small ways, way beyond December.

- 1. Welcome kids by name as they arrive with a high-five, fist bump, or a wave.
- 2. Invite any kids who brought an offering to place it in the offering container.
- 3. Gather the kids together in the center of your group area.
- 4. Play a game of "This or That" by directing the kids to go to either side of the room (or your group space) depending on your answer.
- 5. Point to either side of the room (or your group space) as you ask questions.
- 6. "This or That" questions:
 - → Summer or Winter?
 - → Fall or Spring?
 - → Spring or Winter?
 - → Fall or Summer?
 - → Winter or Fall?
 - → Summer or Spring?
- 7. Gather the group together to discuss.

② What You Say

"It was fun to see what seasons each of you chose! We all have our favorite seasons, but no matter what time of year it is (Summer, Fall, Winter, or Spring), we can celebrate Jesus! [Transition] Today in our true story from the Bible, we'll hear how worshiping Jesus isn't something we save just for Christmas, it's something we can do all year long! Let's go!"

Transition → Lead your group to the Large Group area.

Small Group

December — Week 4

GROUPS 1/5

Take a Snapshot



Application Activity

Faith Skills

Hear from God

Pray to God

Talk about God

Live for God

What You Need

- ☐ Chair ("Interview seat")
- □ Play microphone



Inclusive Pro Tips

Some kids might not feel comfortable speaking in front of the group. Allow them "pass" if they prefer to observe before participating.

1 What You Do

- 1. Gather the kids together.
- 2. Pick one kid to be the "reporter" and another to be the "quest."
- 3. Invite the "guest" to sit in the chair.
- 4. Give the play microphone to the "reporter."
- 5. Invite the "reporter" to position the microphone in front of the "guest" and ask the "guest":
 - → "How do you celebrate Jesus?"
 - → "What's one way you could show Jesus' love to others this month?"
 - → "What makes Jesus worth celebrating all year?"
- Continue rotating roles so everyone gets to be a "reporter" and a "guest."

Talk Together

- 7. Ask:
 - → What happens when you spread BAD news?
 - → What happens when you spread GOOD news?
- 8. Share with the kids that when they tell others about Jesus and His great love, they're passing on the greatest story ever!

Small Group

December — Week 4

GROUPS 2/5

Bible Story Extension

Explore

Bible Story Review

Faith Skills

Hear from God

Pray to God

Talk about God

Live for God

What You Need

- □ Large poster board
- ☐ Markers

Tine

Inclusive Pro Tips

Let the kids dictate their ideas to you if writing is difficult.

① What You Do

- 1. Lay the poster board in the center of the group or on the wall.
- Explain that you will work together to create a "Year of Worship" board! It's a giant board that reminds us to celebrate Jesus all year long.
- 3. Divide the board into four sections with a marker:
 - → Winter, Summer, Spring, and Fall.
- 4. Set out the markers.
- 5. Invite the kids to grab a marker and write or draw one way they can celebrate Jesus in each season.
 - → NOTE: Share ideas like reading the Bible, playing worship music, helping a neighbor, sharing the story of how they came to know Jesus at camp, etc.)
- 6. Once every section has several ideas, circle up to read them aloud as a group.

Make It Personal → Add your own ideas alongside the kids! Share an age-appropriate time when you celebrated Jesus in an everyday season, even when it wasn't a holiday. If possible, tell a short story about how it impacted your faith or someone else's life.

Small Group

December — Week 4

GROUPS 3/5

Discussion Questions





Bible Story Review

Faith Skills

Hear from God

Pray to God

Talk about God

Live for God

What You Need

→ No supplies needed

Inclusive Pro Tips

Be sensitive to kids who may need extra time to process their thoughts and respond. Be patient and create a safe space where everyone has a chance to share when they're ready.

Frequently check for understanding during discussion by asking questions like, "Can someone share in their own words what we're talking about?"

1 What You Do

- 1. How can you celebrate Jesus through the year?
- 2. The shepherds immediately went to tell others about Jesus. How can we have that same excitement to share about Him in our own lives, especially when it's not Christmas?
- 3. Worship can look different in every season. What are some ways you can worship Jesus when life feels busy or hard?
- 4. Worship is more than singing songs. It's loving Jesus with our whole lives. What's one thing you could do this week that would show Jesus you love Him?

Small Group

December — Week 4

GROUPS 4/5

Verses to Take with You



Memory Verse Activity

Faith Skills

Hear from God

Pray to God

Talk about God

Live for God

What You Need

- ☐ "Verse Cards" Activity Page
- □ Party blowers
- ☐ Plastic cups
- ☐ Cotton balls
- □ Tape



Inclusive Pro Tips

Let kids move cups by hand if blowing through party blowers is not accessible.

Place cups on a table instead of the floor for wheelchair access.

What You Do

- 1. Before you begin:
 - → Place the "Verse Cards" in a line on one end of your group space.
 - → Place a cup upside down on top of each verse card.
 - → Then, place a cotton ball on the cup.
- 2. Use tape to mark a start line at the other end of your group area.
- 3. Give each kid a party blower.
- 4. Explain how to play.
 - → One at a time, the kids will run to the cups and use their party blower to blow a cotton ball off of one cup.
 - → Once they blow the cotton ball off, they can lift the cup up and retrieve the verse card.
 - → The next kid will do the same and bring the card back to the group.
- 5. Once all the verse cards are collected, invite the kids to work together to put the verse in the correct order.
- 6. Repeat until the kids can recite the verse from memory.
- 7. If you have more than 10 kids, play again to allow other kids a chance to grab a card!

Talk Together

- 1. Why do you think we play games that allow us to put God's Word in order?
- 2. What does this verse remind you about who Jesus is?

Small Group

December — Week 4

GROUPS 5/5

Make It Personal with Prayer

Reflect

Prayer Activity

Faith Skills

Hear from God

Pray to God

Talk about God

Live for God

What You Need

- □ Index cards
- □ Pencils
- ☐ Optional: Finished poster board from Bible Story Extension Activity

Inclusive Pro Tips



Encourage kids who have a harder time expressing themselves in writing to draw symbols or pictures instead. (i.e., a heart for love, a cross for Jesus, or a gift box for thankfulness).

1 What You Do

- 1. Gather the kids together in a circle.
 - → NOTE: If you completed the Bible Story Extension Activity, set the poster board in the center and invite the kids to reflect on what was written.
- 2. Give each kid an index card and a pencil.
- 3. Invite the kids to silently pray to God and tell Him about their plans to celebrate Jesus all year long!
- 4. Then, have them use the index card and pencils to write out their prayer to God.
- 5. Close in group prayer.

Small Group

December — Week 4

Getting Ready

Social

Welcome the kids and spend time engaging in conversation and catching up. Use this time to create space for them to connect with you and with each other by playing age-appropriate games, asking fun questions, and encouraging friendly interactions. This is a great moment to help kids feel seen, known, and ready to experience today's story.

Groups

Create a safe place to connect and learn how the Bible story applies to real life experiences, through interactive activities and discussion questions.

→ Choose as many of these activities as you like.

Home

- → Print on cardstock or email this week's devotionals and Parent Cue cards.
- → Tell parents about our additional family resources: Parent Cue App

Social

Opening Activity

□ Offering container

Groups

1. Take a Snapshot

☐ Chair ("Interview seat"); one for each Small Group☐ Play microphone, one for each Small Group

2. Bible Story Extension

□ Large poster board, one for each Small Group□ Markers, enough for each Small Group to share

3. Discussion Questions

No supplies needed

4. Verses to Take with You

☐ Print "Verse Cards" Activity Page on paper and cut apart, one set for each Small Group

☐ Party blowers, one for every kid

☐ Plastic cups, 10 for each Small Group

☐ Cotton balls, 10 for each Small Group

☐ Tape, one roll for each Small Group

5. Make It Personal with Prayer

☐ Index cards, one for every kid

☐ Pencils, one for every kid

☐ Optional: Finished poster board from Bible Story Extension Activity