

## Joy Story (Purple)

Week 2 (Dec 14 2025)

### ***BIG IDEA***

God sent Jesus at the perfect time.

### ***BIBLE***

Zechariah, Elizabeth, And John: Luke 1:5–25, 57–66

## ***ABOUT THIS WEEK***

Waiting over 400 years for a gift to arrive seems impossible, but that's how long God's people waited for a savior. This week, we'll hear the joyful news that Zechariah and Elizabeth will have a son who will prepare the way for Jesus. Even though God's people had been waiting a long time for a savior, God sent Jesus at the perfect time, and John would help get everything ready for him.

### CHECK-IN/PLAYTIME (15 MIN)

Check- In Opens 15 min before the Experience begins and closes 15 min after it begins

Kids will play until check-in closes

Start countdown 5 minutes before check-in closes (9:40am, 11:20am, 1:20pm)

Whoever is doing check-in should stay there and welcome all kids. An Adult (18years or older) must drop kids off and check for name-tag with phone number on it.

## ***Welcome Time!***

### Welcome (5 MIN)

Good Morning! Welcome back to "JOY STORY" I am so glad you are here today. My name is  
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### Rules (5 MIN)

1. Be Kind (make heart with hands)
2. Use Listening Ears (Cup ear with hand)
3. Use walking feet (walk in place)
4. Keep hands and feet to yourself (hold up hands then point to feet)
5. Help Clean up (pretend like your using a broom)
6. HAVE FUN!

### Worship (8 MIN)

- INSTRUCTIONS: Play Videos loaded on the Sunday playlist on Youtube
  - **1st Experience:** [God Gave Me Jesus \(motions\)](#) by KidSpring
  - **2nd Experience:** [Joy to the World \(Motions\)](#) by Hi Heaven
  - (other Locations: Click the song title to access youtube video's)

### ACTIVITY | Snowbuddy Stack (5 MIN)

**PRE SUNDAY PREP:** Have enough marshmallows for 7 per child

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *For this activity, give each kid a handful of jumbo marshmallows to see how high they can stack them before falling down. For the first round, give them only ten seconds. Then, allow them to play more freely before moving on to the next activity.*
- We are one week closer to Christmas, and I can't contain my joy! When I think about Christmas, I think about there being snow. Let's stack up our marshmallow snow buddies to see how tall we can make them!
  - But ... you only have *ten* seconds! **Ready, set, stack!**
  - *After activity.* **Do you want more time?**
  - Okay, let's try again, but I won't count to ten this time.
- Today's Bible story is all about how God does everything at the perfect time!

**PRE SUNDAY PREP: ORANGE:** Have a medium sized container filled with candy canes; **PURPLE:** Have Candy canes hidden in a container with small toys or crinkle paper or just papers crumbled into balls

• **INSTRUCTIONS:**

- **ORANGE:** For this activity, prepare a [medium-sized container](#) and fill it with individually wrapped candy canes. Provide kids with their candy cane and have them take turns trying to pick one out of the bin using the curved part of their candy cane. Set one or two minutes on a screen, phone, or analog countdown timer. See if kids can collect all the candy canes before time runs out.
- **PURPLE:** Hide the candy canes in a bin filled with other items such as toddler-age toys or crinkle paper. Have toddlers dig through and find the candy canes and count them together.
- Great job collecting all those candy canes—another thing that reminds us of Christmas!
  - **How did it feel to race against the clock?**
  - **How did you feel when time ran out?**
- Sometimes, it feels like time is going too slow, and other times, it's going way too fast. Today, we are going to learn that no matter how it feels to us, in God's eyes, it's always the perfect time!

## Story Time

- **PRE SUNDAY PREP:** Prepare five wrapped boxes in advance, each containing a different toy with a Big Idea tag attached (use one of the [Big Idea graphics](#) provided or write your own). Label each box with a number corresponding to the week. If you have a [recordable plush](#) available, you could record yourself saying the Big Idea in advance, reset it each week, and gift wrap it in the box again.
  - **INSTRUCTIONS:** This week, invite a couple of kids to unwrap box #2. Once unwrapped, say the Big Idea aloud for the kids (or squeeze the tummy if using a recording) and have kids follow along with the motions below.
- What's the Big Idea of today's Joy Story?
  - **God sent** (Point up.)
  - **Jesus** ("[Jesus](#)" in ASL)
  - **at the perfect** (Touch index finger and thumb together.)
  - **time** (Point to wrist like a watch.)

**INSTRUCTIONS:** Play this week's episode of [Cali's World](#).

- Other campuses: you can use the video linked above or download the videos for this month [here](#)

## Bathroom (10 MIN)

- Line Kids up (Lead Teacher in front/assistant in back)
- Exit room to left and walk kids to the kids bathroom
- Allow 4 girls at a time or 4 boys (boys and girls should never go in at the same time)
- Lead teacher stands at the door with foot in door so they can hear if there are any problems
- Assistant helps keeps the kids waiting entertained, quiet and in their spots against the wall
- Make sure to ask if they washed their hands when done
- Once all kids are done and out of the restroom, lead teacher checks to make sure it looks ok, toilets have been flushed and nothing has been placed in toilets.
- Then walk back to class
- We never assist with anything other than buttoning pants and lead teacher should be in view of assistant at all time.
- If a child needs assistance other than buttoning pants the parent/guardian must be contacted

## PRAYER (5 MIN)

- - Maybe select a different child each week to pray over the snack
  - Give them pointers on praying like how to start..."Dear Jesus" thanking Him for something, praying for anything we might need and then thanking Him for the food.
  - Dear God, thank you for always being with us no matter what we go through. Even when things might seem sad or scary, we are not alone. Amen

## Sharing Time

### SNACK | Goldfish (10 min)

- Have kids sit at table and pass out Goldfish and water

ONLY ONE SERVING OF GOLDFISH PER CHILD

YOU MAY GIVE AS MUCH WATER AS YOU WANT KEEPING IN MIND RESTROOM BREAK

### ACTIVITY | Circle Time (during snack)

- **PRE SUNDAY PREP: Print the Bible Story Images [here](#). (they are labeled by episode EX. eps1image1)**
  - **INSTRUCTIONS:** Use Bible Story Cards to have kids help you retell the Bible

story and answer the following questions

- **What was the name of the angel that visited Zechariah?** *Gabriel.*
- **What message did Gabriel give to Zechariah?** *Zechariah and Elizabeth would have a baby.*
- **What was the baby's name? What would he do when he grew up?** *John. He would get people ready for Jesus.*
- **Tell about a time you had to wait for what you wanted.**
- **The birth of baby John shows that God sent who else at the perfect time?** *Jesus!*
- Let's say our Big Idea together: **God sent Jesus at the perfect time.**

MEMORY VERSE | Luke 1:46–47 (NIV) (5 MIN)

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *Help kids learn this month's memory verse by setting the words (and the Scripture reference) to the tune of "We Wish You A Merry Christmas." You can also have kids repeat the verse after you in small chunks, say them using silly voices, or create simple hand motions for keywords.*
- **"My soul glorifies the Lord, and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior."**

ACTIVITY | Performance Practice (10 MIN)

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *Run through the songs and motions at least 4 times. Have kids focus on smiling and doing the motions BIG.*

## Play Time

ACTIVITY | Coloring Page

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *Print and distribute [the coloring page](#) along with crayons or markers. You can review today's Bible story, Big Idea, and memory verse as the kids color.*