

Joy Story (IMAGINARIUM)

Week 4 (Dec 28 2025)

BIG IDEA

Jesus is God's greatest gift.

BIBLE

Jesus Is Born: Luke 2:1–20; Micah 5:2–4

ABOUT THIS WEEK

Some of the best gifts can appear in unexpected packages, which was undoubtedly the case for Jesus. This week, we'll hear the joyful news that Jesus was born and see how the shepherds came to celebrate. While details around his birth aren't exactly what you would expect, the way people from all over came to worship makes it clear that Jesus is God's greatest gift.

Felix Bucks Store (15 MIN)

Felix bucks store will be open every week (15 min before the experience begins 9:15am, 10:55am, 12:55pm).

Kids can shop as they arrive. Simply write their names and the date on a paper so you know who has already shopped that day. Same rules apply they can buy 2 small items or 1 large item each week.

Still start countdown right at the start of the experience (9:30am, 11:10am, 1:10pm). Store is closed with 1 min left on countdown so you can begin the experience right as the countdown ends.

CHECK-IN/PLAYTIME (5 MIN)

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

Kids will play until the main experience begins and then you will start lesson (check in will still be open for 15 more minutes station one of your helpers at the door for the remainder of check in)

Start countdown as soon as the main experience starts (9:30am, 11:10am, 1:10pm)

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.

Large Group Time

Welcome (5 MIN)

Introduce yourself and the other teachers

Welcome any first time kids (Have them come up front, introduce them, give them their 5 Felix Bucks and explain what Felix bucks are)

Pass out Felix Bucks (those attending more than one experience can receive Felix Bucks for all experiences they attend)

- Bible (1 Felix Buck)
- Notebook (1 Felix Buck)
- Paper from previous week (5 Felix Bucks)

Welcome back to *Joy Story!* Christmas is almost here. Aren't you excited?

Everywhere you look, you see gifts under Christmas trees, gift wrap for sale, gift ideas at the store ... gifts, gifts everywhere!

In today's *Joy Story*, we'll see how God sent us the best gift of all—Jesus, right when the world needed some joy!

RULES (5 MIN)

Go over Rules quickly but thoroughly:

1. No Talking without Permission
2. Be Kind!
 - Use Kind words (no curse words)
 - Keep your hands and feet to yourself (no fighting/shoving)
3. No Running
 - No leaving the classroom without a leader
4. No personal Toys or Electronics
5. HAVE FUN!

You can give Felix bucks to those who know the rules (ex. what is rule #1? whoever can tell you gets a Felix Buck then quickly move to next rule)

GENEROSITY TIME (5 MIN)

Briefly explain what a tithe and offering is. That a tithe is giving back to God what is His and then he blesses the rest. An offering is anything more than our tithe. Everytime we sacrifice and give it opens the door for God to bless us even more.

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

- **PRE SUNDAY PREP:** Have the scripture written on gifts bags one word on each bag
 - **INSTRUCTIONS:** Have 14 volunteers come up and hold the peices of paper out of order; then ask one volunteer to come up and put them in the correct order with the help of the class.
 - **"My soul glorifies the Lord and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior."**

WORSHIP (9 MIN)

- - Play one worship songs from Pro Presenter
 - **1st Experience:** [Jesus is the Reason for the Season \(motions\)](#) by Kid Kardia
 - **2nd Experience:** [I Will Build \(Motions\)](#) by JumpStart 3 (Kid Kardia)
 - Lead Teacher go on stage and have 2 volunteers on either side of you (remind the volunteers what they are doing on the stage. Leading their friends in worship not playing)
 - Don't be afraid to teach the kids about worship for a minute if you feel it is needed or explain the meaning of some of the words in the songs
 - Make sure you pray out of worship. (pray for upcoming week, families, the kids, whatever Holy Spirit is leads you to pray)
 - Don't forget to do Salvation Prayer.
 - make sure helper grabs green salvation bag from the back of Imaginrium, where the shirts are for those who said "yes".
 - Place bag by the door and give to kid(s) who said "yes" to Jesus as they leave. Also, let parent know the decision they made.

WHAT? What are we talking about today?

ACTIVITY | Gift Randomizer (10 MIN)

PRE SUNDAY PREP: Have paper, notecards, and pencils enough for one per child

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *For this activity, you will need to pass out an index card and a marker to each kid. Have everyone write or draw any word they want (remind them to use words that are appropriate and not made up). Collect all the cards and shuffle them around. Pair up kids and assign them two cards at random. Have them come up with an idea for a brand-new toy that combines the two words they're given. You could provide some paper for them to draw out their idea. Allow kids to share their new inventions with the group!*
- **Who might want to receive this new toy you invented?**
- Gift-giving is serious business. It's easy to just pick something at random and hope the other person will love it, but usually a lot of thought goes into trying to pick the perfect present for

the people we love.

- We may not always succeed in giving a great gift to others, but did you know we were already given the greatest gift? Let's find out more in our Bible story!

QUESTION | What was a gift that brought you joy? (5 MIN)

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Ask the following questions. You can have every kid shout their answer but then ask a few kids to share their answers with everyone. Comment briefly on their answers —and have fun with this!
- Think of a time someone gave you a gift that brought you joy. Or maybe you did something to bring someone else joy. Maybe it was a brand-new toy or just a comforting hug when you were feeling sad.
- We all want things that we think will bring us joy, but only one gift gives us real joy—a joy that won't just be a passing fad but lasts forever.

SO WHAT? Why does it matter to God and to us?

VIDEO | Joy Story, Episode 4 (8 MIN)

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Play this week's episode of [Grow TV](#).
- Or download the months videos [here](#).
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STORY | A Story About Gifts (5 MIN)

PRE SUNDAY PREP: have the below clip loaded on ProPresenter

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Share a personal story about a time when you or someone gave a gift that meant so much beyond its monetary value. You may also choose to show [this clip](#) from "Toy Story 3" to discuss further how we can share the gifts we get with others, like the gift of Jesus.
- During Christmastime, we focus a lot on giving and receiving gifts, but the truth is, the gifts we give or receive are with us just for a season.
- **Can you think of any Christmas presents you've gotten, like toys, that you don't use or play with anymore?**
- We might outgrow stuff, but Jesus is the gift that we never outgrow. If anything, we grow with Jesus and because of Jesus! And Jesus isn't a mere playmate or a plaything. **Jesus is God's greatest gift**, sent to us because God so loves the world!
- With great gifts, the joy multiplies when we share it with others. In the same way, we can share the gift of Jesus with others. We can tell other people all about who Jesus is, how he came to earth, and what he has done for us!

SCRIPTURE | Micah 5:2–4 (5 MIN)

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *Read the passage aloud.*
- **Does anyone have an idea of what these verses are talking about?**
- It's about Jesus! And it was written a long, long time before Jesus was born. It's from the prophet Micah, who was telling the people about the savior God promised to send.
- It says that the savior would come from Bethlehem.
 - **Anyone remember from today's Joy Story where Jesus was born?** Bethlehem!
 - And even though Jesus was a baby born in Bethlehem, Micah says that his "origins are from of old, from ancient times." That's because Jesus was more than just a baby. Jesus is the Son of God!
- And you know the best part about these verses? It says that Jesus will be a shepherd for his flock. You and I are part of that flock, and Jesus takes care of us! Because of Jesus, we "will live securely." We can feel safe because of Jesus, who is the greatest gift of all—a gift that "will reach to the ends of the earth."
- These verses from the Old Testament show us how Jesus is the promised savior who came at the perfect time to bring joy to the whole world. **Jesus is God's greatest gift!**

NOW WHAT? What does God want us to do about it?

REFLECTION | Time For Toys (10 MIN)

PRE SUNDAY PREP: Have enough fidgets for one per child

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *Provide a box of [assorted fidget toys](#) that kids can manipulate as they think and share. Play a Christmas song of your choice and give kids time to play and chat freely with their neighbors (because they will want to talk about the toy they got!) before you invite them to focus on today's reflection questions.*
- Today, we talked about the greatest part of the Joy Story—Jesus was born! He was born in a room shared with animals, and a manger was his first crib, but he was the greatest gift to be given to the world! Shepherds heard the news from angels and came to see baby Jesus for themselves!
 - **What are some of your favorite gifts you've ever gotten? Why are they your favorite?**
 - **Have you ever given a gift to someone else? How did you feel when you gave them the gift?**
 - **Have you ever gotten a gift that you shared with someone else? How did that feel?**
 - **What are some ways we can give the gift of Jesus to others?**
- We can begin sharing Jesus by telling others about him, like the shepherds. They saw Jesus for themselves and went out to spread the news. But we can also share in other ways, such as being kind to someone going through a hard time, helping a classmate who might need help, or befriending a new kid in your class.
- Even being nice to your siblings or family members can be a way to share the love and joy of Jesus. Jesus may not have arrived in the prettiest packaging, but there's no doubt that **Jesus is God's greatest gift.**

Small Group Time

DISCUSSION (if needed)

- **SCRIPTURE QUESTIONS**

- **Where was Jesus born? Why was he born in that town?** *He was born in Bethlehem, Joseph's hometown. The prophets foretold that the savior would be born there.*
- **What did the angel say to the shepherds?** *They said not to be afraid because they bring good news for all people — a savior has been born who's wrapped in cloths and lying in a manger.*
- **What did the shepherds do as soon as the angels left?** *They went to Bethlehem to find Jesus and then told everyone about him.*
- **Read Micah 5:2. What clues do you see that this verse is about Jesus?** *"Bethlehem" is where Jesus was born, Jesus is the true "ruler over Israel," and Jesus has been with God "from ancient times."*

- **APPLICATION QUESTIONS**

- **Of all the gifts that are given at Christmas, why is Jesus the greatest of God's gifts to us?**
- **Who is someone you can share the story of Jesus with?**
- **How can sharing Jesus with someone be a gift to them?**