

MONTHLY  
BIBLE STORY

Happy Birthday, Jesus!

LUKE 1:26-33, 38; 2:1-20

BIBLE WORDS

“God has given a son to us.”

ISAIAH 9:6, NCV

BOTTOM LINE

Jesus is God’s Son.

BASIC TRUTH

God loves me.

The toddler curriculum provides one monthly Bible Story because we understand that toddlers learn best through repetition. The toddler curriculum provides older toddlers with the story and craft element that some are ready to experience before they enter the twos. We hope that by sending home a simple toddler craft, you are cueing families to begin having conversations at home with their children.

STORY TIME:

- Game It

CRAFT TIME:

- Best Present



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## STORY TIME

*Gather children on a rug or in a specific area of the classroom to tell the story. Some children (especially the younger ones) may wander. That's okay. They're still listening and learning!*

**WHAT YOU NEED:** Preschool Bible, "Game It" Activity Page, and cardstock

**LEADER:** "Hello, friends! I'm so glad to see you today. Come join me on the floor. Today's true story from the Bible (*hold up the Bible*) is the true story of Christmas! We celebrate Christmas to celebrate the birthday of Someone very special . . . Jesus! Yay!

"Today you are going to help me tell our story! I have all these pictures that tell the story, but they aren't in the right order. Will you help me put them in order? (*Pause.*) Great! Find the picture of the angel with Mary. (*Pause.*) There it is. God sent an angel to tell Mary she was going to have a baby—God's Son, Jesus! The next picture we need is Mary and Joseph traveling. (*Pause.*) Good job! Mary and Joseph traveled to the town of Bethlehem. When they got there, they needed a place to stay. The only place they could find was a place where animals slept. Can you find the picture of Baby Jesus? (*Pause.*) Super! Baby Jesus was born! Mary wrapped Jesus in strips of cloth and laid Him in a manger. Next, we need to find the angel and shepherds. (*Pause.*) You found it! God sent an angel to tell the shepherds in the field taking care of their sheep that Jesus is born. Then suddenly . . . the whole sky filled with angels praising God and singing, 'Glory to God in the highest.' Here is the picture of all the angels. (*Slide the picture of the angels over the picture of the angel and shepherds.*) The shepherds ran to baby Jesus, saw Him, and then ran tell everyone about Jesus! God loves us so much that God gave us His Son, Jesus! And we celebrate Christmas to show everyone that Jesus is special. **Jesus is God's Son.**"



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## CRAFT TIME

*Gather small groups of children around you at a table for toddler craft time. Depending on the size of your group, you may lead the craft two or three times. Not every child may want to participate in craft time. That's okay. Feel free to send home the craft materials for them to complete with their mom or dad.*

**WHAT YOU NEED:** "Best Present" Activity Page, cardstock, dot markers, washable ink pads, heart stamps, scissors, baby wipes, and a permanent marker

### WHAT YOU DO:

**BEFORE THE ACTIVITY:** Copy "Best Present" on cardstock and cut, one per child. Write each child's name on their paper, and fold on the lines.

**DURING THE ACTIVITY:** Encourage children to color their folded paper. Unfold the paper, and encourage children to stamp hearts around Baby Jesus. Clean hands as needed.

### WHAT YOU SAY:

**DURING THE ACTIVITY:** "Your paper looks like a present. Use the markers to decorate the present. *(Pause.)* Let's open your present. *(Pause.)* Look, it's baby Jesus! That's the best present of all! Stamp hearts all around Jesus. *(Pause.)* God loves us so much that God gave us His Son, Jesus! We celebrate Christmas to show everyone that Jesus is special because **Jesus is God's Son.**"