

### Week 5- Jesus is God's Best Gift!

**Bible Story:** Jesus Is Born! (Luke 2:1–7; John 3:16)

**Main Idea:** Baby Jesus is the best gift ever! God sent Jesus because He loves us so much. This week, we learn that Jesus is our friend and Savior. He brings us joy and shows us how much God loves us!

# Free Play (10-15 min)

**ONE80 VOLUNTEERS:** Set up an inviting space for the children for their arrival. Gentle music playing, and interesting toys/stations set up for free play.

### Class Lesson and Bible Story: (In Circle) (10 min)

Pack away the toys and gather children on the mats.

**ONE80 Volunteer:** Good morning boys and girls, it is so good to see you today. I am so excited! Because today we are celebrating someone's birthday!!!! Do you like birthdays? I love birthdays! There are balloons and cake and PRESENTS. *Ad lib discussion on birthdays*.

But today we are celebrating a very special birthday! When this little baby was born the whole world changed forever! And now every time we celebrate His birthday-

everyone in the whole world gets a present-thats crazy. I get a present because its someone else's birthday?! YES!! Thats because this little baby is the most special gift to us! Do you know who I am talking about?! JESUS!

I am going to tell you the story about when Jesus was born.

Let's pretend we're taking a long trip, just like Mary and Joseph had to do.

\*Walk in place slowly

Mary and Joseph had to go to a town called Bethlehem. Mary was going to have her baby very soon! They walked and walked. When they got to Bethlehem, they looked for a place to stay.

\*Show the class the picture of Mary and Joseph traveling to Bethlehem



"Do you have room for us?" they asked. But everywhere was full! "No room, no room," people said. Finally, someone said, "You can stay in the stable where the animals sleep." It wasn't fancy, but Mary and Joseph were thankful.

\*Make gentle, quiet sounds

That night, something wonderful happened! Baby Jesus was born! Mary wrapped Him up in soft cloths and laid Him in a manger - that's like a food box for animals. But it made a perfect little bed for baby Jesus.

\*Show the class the picture of baby Jesus lying in the manger surrounded by Mary and Joseph



Look at baby Jesus! He's so little and perfect! But this isn't just any baby. This is God's Son! God sent Jesus to earth as a gift to everyone. God loves us so much that He gave us His very own Son!

Point up to heaven, then to your heart

Jesus came to be our friend forever. He came to show us how much God loves us. He came to save us and take care of us. Jesus is the best gift anyone could ever give! Better than toys, better than candy, better than anything!

When we love Jesus and ask Him to be our friend, we get to be part of God's family forever. That's why Jesus is God's greatest gift!

#### **PRAYER TIME:**

['Take your one little hand, wave it in the air, tap, tap, tap and nod, nod, nod. Take your other little hand, wave it in the air. Tap, tap, tap and, nod, nod, nod. Put them behind your back. Lay them in your lap. Tickle your tummy. And fold your hands like this.']

Dear God

Thank you for Jesus

He is Your best gift

Thank you for loving us

Help us love Jesus

Help us follow Him

In Jesus Name, Amen.

### Worship Time (songs 'liked' on YouTube) (10 min)

Due to the Christmas show if time is running short you can leave out worship time this morning and go straight to snack time.

#### **ONE80 VOLUNTEERS:**

Song #1: <u>Jesus loves me</u>

Song #2: Away in a manger

Song #3: Silent Night

# Snack Time (5 min)

Invite children to all sit down for snack time. Check for allergies and provide a suitable snack! Thank Jesus for the food.

## Story-based Activity (5 min)

**ONE80 Volunteer:** Let's play a special game about the best gift ever! We're going to pass this beautiful gift box around our circle. While the music plays, we will pass the gift around. When the music stops, whoever is holding the gift, gets to unwrap 1 layer and say 'Jesus is God's best gift' and tell us one thing you love about Jesus! Maybe you love that Jesus loves you, or that He's your friend, or that He takes care of you!

Continue passing and stopping with different children. Each child will receive a small picture of Jesus in every layer.

Jesus is the most special gift because God sent Him to show us how much He loves us! No toy or present is as wonderful as Jesus. God gave us Jesus because He wanted us to be His friends forever!

## Colour sheets (10 min)

ONE80 Volunteers: Craft: Please hand out colour sheets for the children to colour.to colour.



## Pick Up Time:

**Nativity play time:** Volunteers can play with the bible figurines through structured play, reiterating the Christmas story.

Please only play these videos if everything else has been covered.

Jesus video