

# WEEK 3 PRESCHOOL LESSON OUTLINE



## **BIG IDEA**

God gives a Savior to guide us.

## THE BIBLE

Jesus is Born: Luke 2:1-20

#### THIS WEEK AT A GLANCE

## **WELCOME TIME**

- **ACTIVITY** | Star Ornament
- **ACTIVITY** | Build a Stable

## DISCUSSION TIME

- **DISCUSSION** | Snack and Discussion
- **ACTIVITY** | Circle Time
- **ACTIVITY** | Wrap Gifts
- MEMORY VERSE | John 3:16

## **TEACHING TIME**

- **MUSIC** | Worship Time
- THE BIG IDEA | God gives a Savior to guide
- **BIBLE STORY** | Luke 1:2-25, 57-80
- ACTIVITY | Dress Up
- PRAYER

## **PLAY TIME**

- **ACTIVITY** | Coloring Page of the Week
- **ACTIVITY** | Candy Cane Game
- **ACTIVITY** | Glue Gift Wrap



# WEEK 3 PRESCHOOL LESSON GUIDE



## **BIG IDEA**

God gives a Savior to guide us.

### THE BIBLE

Jesus is Born: Luke 2:1-20

### **WELCOME TIME**

#### **ACTIVITY | Star Ornament**

- Welcome back to church! In this series, we're learning how we can follow God! The people in our Bible story followed the star God gave them to find Jesus.
- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Give the kids <u>wooden star ornaments</u> to paint. Provide yellow, white and gold paint for them to paint their ornaments, and glue and glitter (optional).
- What colors did you use on your star? You made stars that look bright and sparkly. God put a special star in the sky to show where Jesus could be found.

#### **ACTIVITY | Build a Stable**

- Baby Jesus was born in a stable where animals stayed.
- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Use big cardboard blocks or boxes to stack up into a big stable structure with help from the kids. When you're done, gather the kids to sit inside the stable.
- We can pretend to be the animals inside a stable, like where Jesus was born. What sound does a donkey make? What sound does a cow make?

## **TEACHING TIME**

#### **MUSIC | Worship Time**

• **INSTRUCTIONS:** Spend some time singing with your preschoolers. You can sing any songs you'd like, but for this lesson we like, "Born is the King" by Hillsong Kids and, "Away in a Manger" by Go Fish.

#### THE BIG IDEA | God gives a Savior to guide us.

- INSTRUCTIONS: Each week, do a big reveal (and make it fun) when you announce the Big Idea, like:
- Ask the kids to give you a drum-roll by stomping their feet or patting their laps.
- Shout the Big Idea, then point to the kids and have them shout it back. (Change it up by using funny voices, different volumes, or inflections.)
- Have a character (either recurring or rotating) come out every week to reveal the Big Idea.
- Write it on a piece of paper and hide it somewhere in the room. Have the kids go on a "hunt" for it. When it's found, ask someone to come up and read it.
- This week's Big Idea: God gives a Savior to guide us.

#### **BIBLE STORY | Luke 1:2-25, 57-80**

- **INSTRUCTIONS**: Look up the story in your Bible and read it to your preschoolers.
- What town did Joseph and Mary travel to? Joseph and Mary traveled to Bethlehem. The king was
  counting all of the people and wanted everyone to go to their home town.
- Where did Mary and Joseph stay—in a house or in a stable? Mary and Joseph stayed in a stable where the animals stayed!
- Mary had a special baby there in the stable. Do you remember who the baby was? Jesus was the baby. She wrapped Him up and laid down in the manger. A manger is a large food box for animals.
- After that happened, the Bible tells us about some shepherds that were taking care of their sheep.
   Who came to tell the shepherds the good news? An angel told the shepherds about baby Jesus.
   Then a big group of angels came and sang praises to God. The angels sang, "Glory to God." Can you say that with me? Glory to God!
- The shepherds heard about baby Jesus and then they praised God, too. The shepherds knew Jesus was special.
- God gave us Jesus to teach us how to love Him. Jesus came to be our Savior and to guide us.

#### **ACTIVITY | Dress Up**

- The Bible story told us about Joseph and Mary and baby Jesus. The story also told us about angels and shepherds. Let's act out the story together.
- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Provide costumes or textured cloth for the kids to put on and pretend to be one of the people or angels in the story. Offer a baby doll to care for. Retell the story, guiding each child to act out their part.
- What was your favorite part of the story?

#### **PRAYER**

- Let's spend time talking with God in prayer.
- Dear God, thank you for sending baby Jesus. We are so glad you gave us Jesus to guide us. Amen.

## **DISCUSSION TIME**

#### **DISCUSSION | Snack and Discussion**

• **INSTRUCTIONS:** Pass out a snack to all of your preschoolers and ask them to sit and listen while they eat. Your discussion will be more effective when they're busy sitting and snacking!

- What was the name of baby Jesus' mom? (Mary.)
- Where did Mary lay Him down? (In the manger or food box for the animals.)
- Who did the angel tell to go find baby Jesus? (The shepherds.)
- Who did the angels and the shepherd praise for sending baby Jesus? (They praised God.)

#### **ACTIVITY | Circle Time**

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Have the kids join you in a circle on the floor. Show the kids a baby Jesus figure from a toy nativity set. As each kid holds the baby Jesus, have them say the Big Idea out loud and then give another child a turn to hold the baby Jesus figure.
- The Big Idea is: God gives a Savior to guide us.
- Who gave us baby Jesus? God gave Jesus to guide us.

#### **ACTIVITY | Wrap Gifts**

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Provide small boxes for the kids to wrap like gifts using wrapping paper or aluminum foil. Use a permanent marker to write, "Jesus" on the box.
- In today's story, we learned how God gave us Jesus. Jesus is the Savior that is the best gift of all.
- You can take home the gift you wrapped to remember that Jesus was the gift God gave the world.

#### **MEMORY VERSE | John 3:16**

• **INSTRUCTIONS:** Check out the Memory Verse Guide in your Programming Folder for ideas on how to help your preschoolers memorize Bible verses. Here are the hand motions for this month's memory verse . . .

GOD (point up to the sky)
SO LOVED (hug yourself)
THE WORLD (spread arms out in a big circle)
THAT HE GAVE (open hands as if giving a gift)
HIS ONLY SON (pretend to rock a baby in your arms).

## **PLAY TIME**

While you're waiting for parents to pick up their kids . . .

#### **ACTIVITY | Coloring Page of the Week**

• **INSTRUCTIONS:** Give every kid a Coloring Page, plus markers or crayons. As they color, remind them about how God sent baby Jesus to be the Savior who guides us.

#### **ACTIVITY | Candy Cane Game**

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Bring a bowl filled with large, individually wrapped candy canes. Demonstrate how to hold the pointed end of one candy cane and use the hooked end to pick up a candy cane from the bowl. Play a relay game where a kid runs across the room to the bowl, hooks a second candy cane with the first and then runs back. Keep the game going until each kid gets a turn.
- In our game, you had to travel across the room like Joseph and Mary had to travel to Bethlehem.

#### **ACTIVITY | Glue Gift Wrap**

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Cut colorful wrapping paper into thin strips before the service. Give the kids glue sticks and paper to glue the wrapping paper and decorate their page. After the picture is finished, you can draw a large star shape on it or cut it into a large star.
- You used the gift wrap to make a great looking piece of art. What a great gift Jesus is to us. God gave Jesus as the Savior to guide us.

Encourage your preschoolers to help clean up the room while they wait for their parents.