

GOD LOVES ME

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BIBLE WORDS

"God has given a son to us."

ISAIAH 9:6, NCV

Jesus Is Born

LUKE 2:1-7

BOTTOM LINE

GOD GAVE US JESUS.

BASIC TRUTH

GOD LOVES ME.

The extended toddler curriculum provides older toddlers with the story and craft element that some are ready to experience before they enter the twos.

The extended toddler curriculum is designed to be used IN ADDITION to the monthly toddler curriculum.

STORY TIME

- Tell It

CRAFT TIME

- In the Stable

BIBLE WORDS

"God has given a son to us."

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Jesus Is Born

LUKE 2:1-7

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STORY TIME

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

WHAT YOU NEED: Preschool Bible

LEADER: "Hello, friends. I'm so glad to see you today! Come join me on the floor. Today's TRUE story is about the Christmas story, and it comes from the Bible. *(Hold up the Bible.)*

"One starry night an angel came to Mary to tell her really big news. Mary was going to have a baby—a boy named Jesus who would bring great joy!

"Mary and Joseph traveled a long way to Bethlehem, but when they got there, there was nowhere to sleep. All the rooms were full, but the innkeeper let them stay in his stable with the animals. That night baby Jesus was born and slept in the hay.

"Angels came to some shepherds that night to tell them Jesus was born. The shepherds went to visit baby Jesus and then ran to tell everyone, 'Jesus is born! Jesus is here!'

"That is why we celebrate Christmas. It's Jesus' birthday! God loves you and you and you *(point to each child)* SO much He gave us His Son, Jesus. **God gave us Jesus!"**

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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: "Stable" and "Mary, Joseph, and Jesus" Activity Pages; cardstock; scissors; and glue sticks

WHAT YOU DO:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: Copy the "Stable" Activity Page onto cardstock (one per child). Copy "Mary, Joseph, and Jesus" onto cardstock and cut on dotted lines (one set per child).

DURING THE ACTIVITY: Retell the story. Encourage children to glue Mary, Joseph, and Jesus to the stable.

WHAT YOU SAY:

DURING THE ACTIVITY: "Today we learned the true story of Christmas when baby Jesus was born. God loves us so much that he gave us His Son, Jesus.

God gave us Jesus.

"Mary and Joseph had no place to stay, but the innkeeper let them stay in his stable with the animals.

"Look at your paper. It's a picture of the stable. Let's add Joseph and Mary. Glue them in the stable (*help add glue as needed*). Good job. Now add baby Jesus. Say, 'Happy birthday, Jesus.' (Pause.)

"The story of Jesus' birth helps us remember that God's love for us is so big that He gave us His Son, Jesus, to be our friend forever. **God gave us Jesus.**"