



3rd - 5th

December 9-10, 2017

DATE

Jesus is born.

LESSON TITLE

Luke 1-2; Isaiah 9:6

WHERE TO FIND IT

The Rescuer arrives!

MAIN POINT

schedule

Connect Time (15 minutes): Five minutes after the service begins, split kids into groups and begin their activity.

Large Group (30 minutes): Begin 20 minutes after the service starts. Model what it looks like to be engaged in large group.

Small Group (15 minutes): Keep kids in small groups until parents arrive. If you all have extra time at the end, you can review the video and songs together.

tips

We're talking about the story of Christmas. As kids come in, ask them what they know about Christmas. You can spark discussions with questions like: Why do we celebrate Christmas? What have you heard about the Christmas story? (If they've never heard about Jesus, just ask them what about Christmas makes them most excited!)

check-in/out

Remind kids that Jesus came to earth because he wants to be with us. Remind them to take time this week to be with HIM!

large group heads up

We're talking about the Christmas story and how Jesus came to be with us. In fact, one of his names was Immanuel, which means "God with us."



connect time

GOAL: *Connect Time is all about engaging kids in an activity that allows them to connect with each other right away, while simultaneously piquing their curiosity for Large Group and preparing their minds for what they're going to hear.*

PIECE OF THE PUZZLE

Before this activity, have leaders **cut up 3 different puzzle images along the dotted lines which are on the back of the images. (Puzzle A, Puzzle B and Puzzle C) Keep each puzzle separate. (You can use the provided ziplocks if needed).*

- Divide into **small groups**.
- **Within** your small group, split kids into into 3 teams and give each team a different puzzle.
 - One team gets Puzzle A, one team gets Puzzle B, and one team gets Puzzle C.
 - If you have a very small group, you can split into 2 teams, or keep kids together.
- Each team has to work together to put their puzzle together as quickly as they can. Once they've finished, they should stand up (whoever finishes first is the winner of that round!)
- Let the other groups have 30 seconds to a minute to complete the rest of their picture. Then have teams shuffle up their pieces, and trade them with another team.
- Have 4-5 rounds of this, letting groups trade and do a different puzzle each time.

Before you go to Large Group, you can ask kids how their week went. You can also remind kids of the expectations for Large Group behavior: (1) be kind, (2) listen when somebody speaks, and (3) follow the leader's instructions.

special notes

Here's a link to today's new Christmas worship video:

Joy to the World - Pentatonix:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-Xo64Q2ucQ8&list=RDvWaQFcvrDQA&index=18>

presenter tips

Here's a link to today's video:

Video: God's Story / Jesus is Born

(<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FrOBJo6LNfw&t=1s>)

script

WELCOME AND INTRO

Main Goal: Review Connect Time and introduce the lesson.

Notes:

***Click to play intro music.**

- **Say:** Hey everyone, welcome to Kids Club. We are so glad that you are here today. This month is a very special month for us. Does anyone know why? (Let kids respond.) Yes, you are absolutely right, it's CHRISTMAS!!! And just like in our connect time game, it's not always easy to wait for things that we're excited about.
- **Ask:** When you put puzzles together, do you always know what it is right away? Or do you have to wait a little to figure out what it is, as more and more pieces are put together? (Let kids respond.) Yep, you have to wait for it be revealed! Sometimes it's just a little waiting, sometimes it takes a lot longer, like with huge 1000 pieces puzzles!
- **Ask:** Has anyone ever had to wait for someone to be born, maybe a sibling? (Let kids respond.) Was it exciting? (Let kids respond.) Did it get more and more exciting the closer it got for that baby to be born? (Let kids respond.)
- **Say:** Imagine you're back in Jesus' time, and you've been waiting soooo long for the Rescuer to come. What would you feel when Jesus is finally here? (Let kids respond.) Yep; excitement, joy, happiness, relief, and peace! Let's watch a quick video to see how excited people probably were when Jesus was born, and how excited we can be!
- **Video: How Disney Characters Feel About the Holidays**

EXCITED FOR JESUS

Main Goal: Explain all the characters of the Christmas Story.

- **Ask:** Is that how excited we should be for Jesus? (Let kids respond.) Yes! And when we're excited about something, do we tell other people about it? Of course!
- **Say:** Right now, can I have a few volunteers who would feel comfortable talking on stage? (Call on 3 kids to come up to the stage.) Okay, I want each of you to announce Jesus being born in your own way! Imagine you just found out, and now you're going into town to tell everybody. You can be as silly or excited as you want! (Let each kid take a turn "announcing.")
- **Say:** Great job guys, can everybody give them a hand? (Let kids clap.) When people were waiting for Jesus, they expected a big, huge, grand announcement! But instead, they got something very different.

GOD'S GREATEST GIFT TO US

Main Goal: Review the God's Story Video.

- **Say:** When Jesus arrived, it was in a pretty unexpected way. It was different than everyone thought it would be, and it was announced in a pretty strange way too! Let's watch a video about Jesus' birth, as told by some funny kids. See if you can tell who else was REALLY excited for the birth of Jesus, and how it was announced.
- **Video: Christmas According to Kids**
- **Say:** Who was excited about the birth of Jesus in that video? (Wisemen, Shepherds, Joseph, Mary). People in God's family had been waiting for hundreds of years for God to send the rescuer. As excited as all the people in the Christmas story were to have Jesus born, there was someone who was more excited than all of them put together. Can you guess who it was? (Let kids respond.) It was GOD!
- **Say:** God loved walking around with his people like he did with Adam and Eve in the Garden of Eden. He sent Jesus to earth so He could spend time with us. He wanted to walk with us, and talk with us, and teach us all the things that he wanted us to know. And He was going to use Jesus to do all of that.

GOD WANTS TO SPEND TIME WITH US

Main Goal: God wanted renewed relationship with us.

- **Ask:** Is there anyone that you love spending time with (Let kids respond.) Well, that is EXACTLY how God feels about you. There is no one that he would rather spend time with than YOU!!! And because he is God, He can feel that way about all of us at the same time.

GOD WANTS TO SPEND TIME WITH US

Main Goal: God wanted renewed relationship with us.

- **Say:** How many of you look forward to spending time with family at Christmas? (Let kids respond.) That is also exactly how God feels about you! All people who follow Jesus are in God's family, and he gets really excited about spending time with his family.
- **Say:** How many of you look forward to presents for Christmas? Well God LOVES to give us gifts, and Jesus was the best gift he could think of. Jesus came to be the rescuer, to forgive us for all the wrong choices that we make. He wanted to show us how much God loves us, and teach us how to trust him.

RESPONSE TIME

Main Goal: Give kids a chance to actively respond to what they've heard today.

- **Say:** Let's watch one more video about the birth of Jesus and all the people who were excited to meet him. As you watch, see how many of them you can remember, and how they celebrated Jesus' birth.
- **Video: God's Story / Jesus is Born**
- **Say:** Just like in the Christmas story, we have the choice to be excited about Jesus or not. We can choose to follow him, seek him, and worship him too.
- **Ask:** How can we show Jesus that we are excited about his birth? (Let kids respond.) Great ideas! We can show it by telling others about him, celebrating and worshipping him, and even by serving others.
- **Say:** Let's take a minute to think about one way that you can tell someone about Jesus or one way that you can serve someone else this week. As we think about it, I'll play a fun version of the Christmas song, "Noel", which is another name for the Christmas season.
- **Music Video: Noel**

A SPECIAL KING

Main Goal: Jesus was no ordinary king!

- **Say:** Jesus was no ordinary baby. He was the rescuer, the king, that God had been promising for soooo long. And he came to us....as a baby.
- **Say:** Can you imagine if a regular king went and lived with the poorest people in his kingdom, maybe out on a farm with the shepherds? (Let kids respond.) No way! I've never heard of that happening. But that's basically what Jesus did for us. Jesus was willing to be born as a baby and grow up like us, all in order to rescue us.
- **Say:** Let's pray, and tell God how glad and excited we are that he sent his son to do that for us.



PRAYER AND WORSHIP

Main Goal: Close the lesson with prayer and worship.

- **Pray:** God, you are an amazing father. Thank you for sending Jesus to us, and for rescuing us. We love you so much, and please help us to remember the main reason for Christmas!
- **Say:** Now it's time to celebrate! This is a chance to show God that we want to be close to him, just like he wants to be close to us.
- **Say:** We've got one more worship song called "Joy to the World", and it's by an acapella band who use ONLY their voices to create this song, with no instruments!
- **Music Video: Joy to the World - Pentatonix**



instructions

Goal: Kids will (1) understand that Christmas is the celebration of Jesus' birth, and part of God's ultimate rescue plan, (2) recognize why Jesus was born in a humble way and (3) celebrate Jesus' birth!

Why? It's important to recognize that the story of Jesus' birth is like no other—he truly is the Rescuer!

Tip: Kids will need to cut their own paper strips as part of the activity; there are dotted lines on their pages so they can cut even strips!

small group

REVIEW THE STORY

1. Why did God send Jesus to earth? (To be close to us, to teach us, to walk with us)
2. Who was excited about the birth of Jesus? (Jesus, Mary, Simeon, the wise men, shepherds)
3. What were some of the things that made Jesus birth a little strange/unexpected? (He was born outside with animals, his parents were regular people, shepherds were the first to find out about him.)
4. Why do you think Jesus was born as a baby outside, instead of like a king? (God does things differently! He wanted Jesus to be like us and experience life as we do; Jesus was not a "regular" king.)
5. What are some ways that we can be close to God?

MAKE IT PERSONAL

- God loves our time and our attention more than anything else, so let's make a paper chain with "gifts" that we want to give to Jesus!
- Give each kid **1 piece of red paper** and **1 piece of green paper**. Set out **glue sticks, markers** and **scissors**, and have kids cut along the dotted lines on their paper. This will give them 5 paper strips of each color.
- Have each kid write something on each slip of paper that is a way they can spend time with God. Here are some ideas: *Worship, pray, read my bible, help with chores at home, spend time with someone who may be lonely at the holidays, help or be kind to a sibling of family member, etc.*
- Once they've written on each strip of paper, they can link them together and attach with glue sticks.
- If they want, kids can share their paper strips with one another to create their chains. Each kid can take their own chain home.

(Continued on next page.)

- Take home idea: kids can remove a chain each day, and read it with their family or tape it up somewhere at home.

Extra time? Let kids draw a giant Christmas tree on a large sheet of tear off paper, and decorate it together with markers!



connect questions

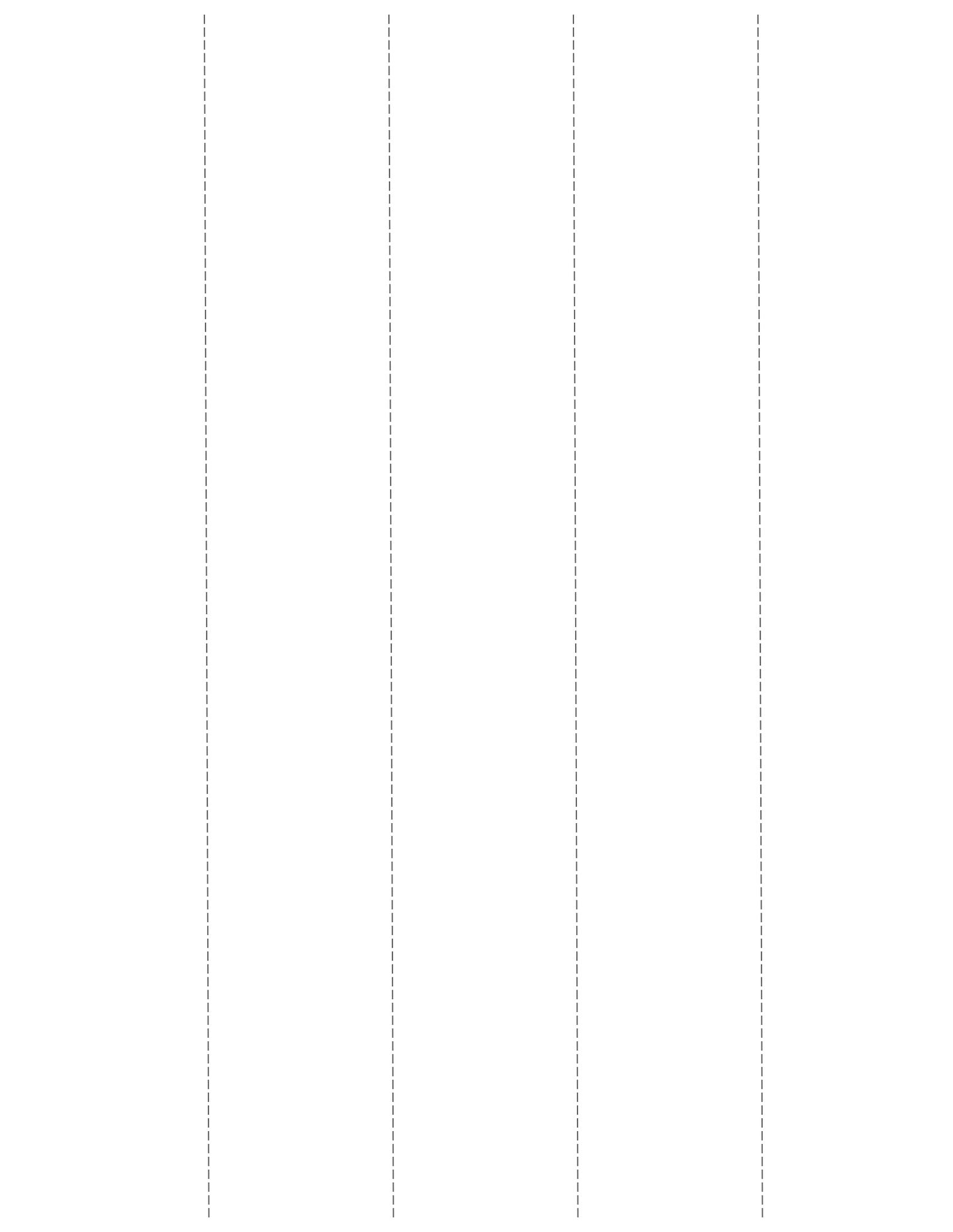
Tell me about Jesus' birth.
How did people know Jesus was coming?

lesson supplies

| Connect Time | | | |
|----------------------------------|---|---|-------------|
| Item | Usage | Details | Provided by |
| Set of three puzzles | 1 set of three per group | 11x17 paper, color, double sided, Puzzle LINK | site |
| Ziplocks (to hold puzzle pieces) | 3 sandwich ziplocks per small group, reused | | KC National |

| Large Group | | | |
|-----------------|---------------------------|---|-------------|
| Item | Usage | Details | Provided by |
| Adventure Bible | 1 per large group, reused | Biblesbythe Case.com | site |

| Small Group | | | |
|-------------|-------------------------|--|---|
| Item | Usage | Details | Provided by |
| Markers | 1 set per group, reused | | site |
| Red paper | 1 per kid | Sites to copy Page 10 onto the red paper so that it has a guide for kids to cut their strips. Staples Item #491619 | KC National to provide red paper, sites to copy template onto it. |
| Green paper | 1 per kid | Sites to copy Page 10 onto the red paper so that it has a guide for kids to cut their strips. Staples Item #507430. | KC National to provide green paper, sites to copy template onto it. |
| Glue sticks | 1 set per group, reused | | site |
| Scissors | 1 set per group, reused | | site |



A/V needs

3rd-5th



1. Song slide: for when kids enter the room (All that You Need instrumental; mp3 only; can be downloaded on website)
2. Video: How Disney Characters Feel About the Holidays (0:00-1:07;
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=q7IZ_kwfobE)
3. Video: Christmas According to Kids (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=suowe2czxcA>)
4. Video: God's Story / Jesus is Born
(<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FrOBJo6LNfw&t=1s>)
5. Music Video: Noel
(<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vWaQFcvrDQA&list=RDvWaQFcvrDQA>)
6. Music Video: Joy to the World - Pentatonix
(<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-Xo64Q2ucQ8&list=RDvWaQFcvrDQA&index=18>)