

CONNECT TIME

Greet kids by name and play table games as kids arrive. Be sure to welcome any new families. Ask kids: What do you like to do to celebrate your birthday when it comes? What are some ways that we can celebrate Jesus' birthday when Christmas comes?



ORNAMENT DECORATING START Start by 9:20/10:45

Hand everyone an ornament and one of the Sharpie markers. Have them begin writing one of the verses/phrases (see the half sheet), **very carefully**, on their ornament As they are writing, you may engage them with the following questions:

- 1. What does it look like to "thank" God? We can pray to Him, give glory to Jesus by talking about Him with others, or . . .
- 2. Why was Jesus a gift to us? Because we did not deserve Him, He was given to us freely.
- 3. Why is Jesus' birth such a celebration? Because it means that God has come into the world to save us!

START BY 9:30/10:55

REVIEW

BE, LISTEN, FOLLOW



LARGE GROUP

SMALL GROUP

ORNAMENT DECORATING, CONT'D

Set out the jewels and gems and allow kids to add a few embelishments to their ornament. Assist in adding a pipe cleaner or precut string to the top for hanging, if they desire.

Kids may also want to add more decor using different colored Sharpie markers.

CHRISTMAS TRIVIA

There are a few ways to play this game:

Option #1: "4 Corners" where you read the question and kids move to the corner they think is the right answer. There are "A, B, C, D" cards for you to tape up for kids to move to. **Option #2:** Divide into teams and first team to ring in the answer gets to go first. Award

points as you see fit.

Options #3: If kids are enjoying decorating their ornament, and you don't want to interrupt them, you may read off the questions as they continue decorating.

The trivia questions all have to do with the story surrounding Jesus' birth and may debunk some of the myths we have about the story. There are notes and scripture references for some of the answers for further discussion.

Winners get a cupcake at the end of class. Just kidding. They all get cupcakes (at the end)!

PRAYER

One thing we can believe about God is that He hears our prayers. Let's spend some time talking to God knowing that He is listening. Let them know you will start with an opening prayer and then will be giving some prompts they can pray about out loud or quietly to themselves. Spend a few moments after each prompt before going on to the next one.

God, thank You for sending Your Son, Jesus, to show us that You can do anything! Help us to grow in our belief and understanding of who You are in our lives. Hear us now as we pray:

Prompts:

- Thank God for what He has done for you.
- Ask God for what you need today or this week.
- Remind yourself of who God is and why you can believe him.

CUPCAKES & SCRIPTURE CARDS

As parents arrive, please pass out a cupcake and a "Christmas Scripture Reading" bookmark to each child.



Match parent pick-up numbers, with child name tag numbers. Greet parents and encourage them to take a picture of the parent recap page to review with their kid(s) on the ride home.