



PRESCHOOL



Luke 2:1-7

One night, in a field near Bethlehem, shepherds were watching over their sheep. It was hard work being a shepherd and not many people wanted to sleep in a field and protect sheep. The shepherds protected the sheep from big animals or people who could hurt them.

It was very dark. All of a sudden there was a bright light! An angel appeared to them and said, "Do not be afraid! I'm here to bring you good news for all people! Today in Bethlehem, a baby has been born. He is the one that will save the world." Then even more angels appeared and praised God.

The shepherds rushed to Bethlehem to find the baby who would save the world. They found him just as the angels said, inside a manger. The shepherds were so amazed that they had met the Savior.

When they left, they wanted everyone to know this exciting news. They told everyone they met this wonderful message. Everyone was amazed by what they said. This was a very special night, and a very special baby had been born.



How did God show His love for world? He sent His Son, Jesus, to show us His love.



PRESCHOOL



WELCOME

Prepare tables with the opening activities. Greet kids by name as kids arrive. Be sure to welcome any new families.

TABLE #1 - Coloring sheets, matching cards from last week
TABLE #2 - Nativity set play sets



INTRODUCE THE BIBLE STORY

Sounds in a Stable - Ask preschoolers what kind of sounds they might hear in a stable (or barn). Suggested animals: cow, horse, chicken, rooster, sheep, goat, pig, donkey, or dove.

Let's be a sheep and move to our first picture today to read the Bible story. Today's pictures are 7 & 8 - Bethlehem and the stable.



CHRISTMAS

Options: 1) Using your phone, scan the QR codes located on the posters around the room and read the words (or push play to hear the words) for each picture; 2) Read the story attached to the lesson plan; 3) Read pages 271 - 276 from The Beginner's Bible.

**HOW DID GOD SHOW HIS LOVE FOR THE WORLD?
He sent His Son, Jesus, to show us His love.**



SONG

Lead preschoolers in singing one or more songs found in the December 2024 file.



PRACTICE THE KEY PASSAGE

Display the key passage poster. Read the words and help preschoolers memorize the words. Clap out a simple rhythm or pass a small object around the circle as each word is stated.

**Isaiah 9:6
For unto us a child is born.**

ACTIVITIES



WHERE ARE THE SHEEP?

- Have an assistant hide the rolled up the socks while you engage preschoolers with the Nativity set; or create a sheep fold with the big blocks. Build it up about two or three blocks high with an opening to corral the sheep through.
- Send the preschoolers to find all the sheep and bring them back to the fold, then have an assistant or 'the shepherd' lay down in front of the opening. Tell preschoolers when shepherds were away from the farm they would set up a safe place for the sheep to stay in overnight and then lay down in the opening to keep the sheep inside the fold.
- **This is probably how the angels found the shepherds when they appeared the night Jesus was born. The shepherds were filled with joy when they heard the news about Jesus being born in Bethlehem.**



MANGER ORNAMENT

- Pass out pre-sorted packs of the ornament craft to interested preschoolers. Show the sample ornament and tell preschoolers they will be wrapping the prepared sticks with the yarn. The shortest yarn is for the smallest stick - baby Jesus.
- Demonstrate how to wrap the stick - apply a small glue dot and secure the end of the yarn. Then wrap the yarn around the stick. Secure the end with another glue dot. Repeat with the other sticks - Mary & Joseph.
- Apply a large glue dot to the back of each stick and assist preschoolers to attach them to the stable. Allow preschoolers to choose a star and attach it to the top of the stable.



Match parent pick-up numbers, with child name tag numbers.

Build relationships with parents, encourage them to take a picture of the parent recap page to go over on the ride home.