



Use Week of:

Christmas • Session 3

Jesus Was Born

BIBLE PASSAGE: John 1

STORY POINT: The Holy Spirit helps us.

KEY PASSAGE: 2 Peter 1:3

CHRIST CONNECTION: Jesus came to earth to show us what God is like.

Bible Story for Toddlers

Before God made the earth, Jesus was with God. Jesus is God the Son. Everything was made through Jesus, and nothing was ever made without Jesus. God sent Jesus to bring life to the world. People did not know who Jesus was when He came into the world. He was born in Bethlehem to a young woman named Mary. Angels told shepherds the good news about Jesus' birth, and they praised God. Jesus is the Son of God, and He is also a man. When we trust in Jesus, we get to be called God's children! No one has ever seen God, but Jesus—God's one and only Son—has shown us what God is like.

Babies Gospel Gems

- * Jesus has always been with God.
- * Jesus is the Son of God and a man too.
- * God sent Jesus to rescue us and make us His children.

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BABIES Activities

Look in the Bible

Provide hand-size Bibles for babies to handle. Open your Bible to John 1. Show the Bible story picture as you say the gospel gems in a soothing voice. Read the key passage card.

SAY • God the Father, God the Holy Spirit, and God the Son have always been together. Jesus is the Son of God and a man too. Jesus came to earth to show us what God is like. **THE HOLY SPIRIT HELPS US** believe what is true about Jesus. [*Pray for the babies.*]

Sing a hymn

Sing a verse or the chorus of “Breathe on Me.” If you are unfamiliar with the tune or lyrics, listen to it online before the session.

SAY • **THE HOLY SPIRIT HELPS US** know what is true about God the Father and God the Son. God sent Jesus to rescue us and make us His children!

Make globe art

Provide a 10-inch blue paper plate for each baby. Cut shapes out of green construction paper to represent land. Help babies glue the shapes to the plate. Write *Jesus came to give life to the world* on each child's art. Talk about the story.

SAY • Jesus has always been with God. Jesus is the Son of God and a man too. Jesus came to earth to show us what God is like. **THE HOLY SPIRIT HELPS US** understand what is true about Jesus.

Gather sheep

Place toy sheep on the floor within arm's reach of the babies. Guide babies to “gather” the sheep. Older babies may be able to move the sheep from the floor to a small basket. Talk about the Bible story as they play.

SAY • Angels told shepherds the good news about Jesus' birth, and they praised God. God sent Jesus to rescue us and make us His children. **THE HOLY SPIRIT HELPS US** love Jesus.

Check diapers, serve bottles if needed, and release babies to parents according to your church's security guidelines. Give parents today's big picture card. Repeat the story point, gospel gems, and Bible-learning activities for babies who stay a second hour.

TODDLER Activities

Circle time (5 minutes)

Provide small Bibles for toddlers to handle. Say the Bible is God's words. Read the key passage card. Open your Bible to John 1. Show the Bible story picture as you tell the Bible story. Say the story point and gospel gems. Pray for the toddlers.

Make a globe ornament

Cut circles from heavyweight paper for toddlers. One at a time, tape a circle inside a shirt box with a lid. Squirt blue, green, and white paint in the box. Drop a golf ball in the box and tape the lid. Help toddlers shake the box. Remove the "earth" to let it dry. Hole punch and thread it with ribbon. Talk about the story.

SAY • You can put your ornament on your Christmas tree to remember that God sent Jesus to rescue us and make us His children. Jesus came to earth to show us what God is like. **THE HOLY SPIRIT HELPS US** love Jesus.

Sing songs about Jesus

Play a mix of worship songs and Christmas songs as toddlers play rhythm instruments. Talk about the Bible story as toddlers play.

SAY • At Christmas, we celebrate when God sent Jesus to earth as a human baby. Jesus has always been with God. Jesus is the Son of God and a man too.

THE HOLY SPIRIT HELPS US know and believe what is true about Jesus.

Count the manger scene objects

Fill a plastic bin with star shapes, farm animals, and manger scene figures. Guide toddlers to find items by category. Point to each item as you count it. Retell the Bible story.

SAY • At Christmas, we celebrate that God sent Jesus to rescue us and make us His children. **THE HOLY SPIRIT HELPS US** believe this good news!

Roll the globe

Provide an inflatable globe for toddlers to roll or hold. Explain that a globe shows us what planet Earth looks like. Talk about the Bible story.

SAY • Jesus has always been with God. Jesus came to earth to show us what God is like. **THE HOLY SPIRIT HELPS US** tell others what is true about Jesus.

BONUS Teaching Hour

SESSION TITLE: Jesus Was Born

BIBLE PASSAGE: John 1

KEY PASSAGE: 2 Peter 1:3

STORY POINT: The Holy Spirit helps us.

CHRIST CONNECTION: Jesus came to earth to show us what God is like.

Transition activity: Make a paper cup Christmas tree

Provide green paper cups, star shapes, stickers, and other assorted items. Place the cups upside down on the table. Help toddlers glue the star at the top. Allow toddlers to add decorations, such as buttons, pom-poms, or stickers. Talk about the Bible story as they work.

SAY • At Christmastime, we decorate trees to celebrate Jesus' birth. Jesus has always been with God, and He is alive today. **THE HOLY SPIRIT HELPS US** know that God sent Jesus to rescue us and make us His children.

Tell the good news

Invite toddlers to sit in a circle. One at a time, call a toddler to stand up and come to you. Tell the good news to the toddler, then ask, "Whom did God send to rescue us?" Encourage her to cheer, "Jesus!" Clap and repeat with each child.

SAY • Jesus is the Son of God and a man too. God sent Jesus to rescue us and make us His children. We get to tell people everywhere that good news! **THE HOLY SPIRIT HELPS US** tell others about Jesus.

Lace cards

Print, cut apart, and hole punch the edges of the "Baby Jesus Lacing Cards." Show toddlers how to lace the cards with ribbon or yarn. Talk about the Bible story.

SAY • We celebrate God's plan to send Jesus at Christmas. Jesus is the Son of God and a man too. **THE HOLY SPIRIT HELPS US** love Jesus and follow Him.

Check diapers, serve a snack if needed, and release toddlers to parents according to your church's security procedures. Give parents today's big picture card to reinforce today's Bible story, Christ connection, story point, or gospel gems throughout the week.