



3PK

December 7-8, 2013

DATE

Christmas

LESSON TITLE

Luke 1-2

WHERE TO FIND IT

The Rescuer is Born!

MAIN POINT

schedule

First 10 minutes of the service hour:
Engage kids in cooperative play activities to help them connect to other kids

Next 5 minutes: Connect Time

Next 25 minutes: Large Group

Last 25 minutes: Snack and Small Group

Finish early? Repeat the activity! Kids this age learn through repetition...or check out the end of the activities section to find an idea for this week.

tips

As kids color, talk to them about the coloring image. Ask them what they think is happening in the picture. What is Mary thinking/doing? What is the angel doing? They'll find out what's happening in large group!

check-in/out

As kids leave, remind them to tell their parents why they are taking home little Christmas maracas (to celebrate Jesus' birthday!)

large group heads up

Today, we're going to hear the great news: the Rescuer we talk about every week...is here! This will prepare kids to celebrate his arrival this Christmas season.



connect time

GOAL: *Connect time is all about engaging kids in a short, interactive game to prepare them for Large Group.*

- **Clean up! (10 minutes after the service start time, when you get the 5-minute warning from the presenter)**
- Line Up
- While in line, tell the kids that there's going to be a story about a very special announcement. Then practice "announcing" in silly ways:
 - Turn around backwards and say "I have an announcement"
 - Stand on one foot and say "I have an announcement"
 - YELL "I have an announcement"
 - Sing "I have an announcement"
 - In a deep voice, say "I have an announcement"
 - In a high-pitched voice, say "I have an announcement"
 - Add your own if you want, but end with these:
 - Whisper "I have an announcement"
 - Mouth (or lip-sync) "I have an announcement"

Before you go in, remember we have to be (Shhh!) quiet in Large Group. Then tip-toe in together!



instructions

Goal: Kids will (1) understand that Jesus, the Rescuer, was born and (2) recognize that Christmas is a celebration of Jesus' birthday.

Why? As kids experience the Christmas season this year, we want them to remember *why* it even exists.

Tip: Kids can take their maracas home. Make using them a really fun experience, so kids will want to show their parents. Decide ahead of time how you want the activity to flow.

small group

REVIEW THE STORY

1. Who gave the special announcement in today's story? (angel)
2. What did the angel announce? (He told Mary "Jesus is coming!")
3. **(Hold up the picture.)** What are some of the things that happened when Jesus was born? (1. An angel announced he was coming, 2. John the Baptist jumped in his mom's belly, 3. Angels appeared to shepherds, 4. A star appeared, 5. Wise men began following the star, 6. God kept Jesus safe, 7. Joseph had dreams)
4. Who was this very special baby that was born? (Jesus the Rescuer)
5. When do we celebrate his birthday? (on Christmas)

RELATE TO THE STORY

What kinds of things do we do to celebrate a birthday? (Let kids share. Hold up the props in your bin: **party hat, streamers, and candles** to give them ideas.)

THEN SAY: We can celebrate Jesus, the Rescuer! In fact, let's sing to him right now! (Lead the group in singing "Happy Birthday")

ACTIVITY: BIRTHDAY PARTY

Tell them it's time to add to the celebration!

- Give each kid a **Christmas maraca**. Then sing "Happy Birthday" again, with the help of the maracas. Then have some fun:
 - Lead kids around the room, making joyful noises!
 - Have kids make crazy noises when the lights are on, then STOP when the lights are off. Yell "Happy Birthday!" Repeat.
 - Turn on a Kids' Club CD—play, dance, and sing along!

- Play Rock Band: Make up beats by: (1) tapping the maraca on your head, tummy, foot, or knee, (2) tapping the maraca on the table fast, (3) tapping the maraca on the table *sloooow*, (4) adding sound effects like low or high voices, whispers--or any silly noise the kids think is fun!

***Pray with kids, thanking God for sending Jesus, the Rescuer and thanking God that we get to celebrate Jesus' birthday this Christmas.**

Extra time? Don't send the kids to go play. Keep jamming together! Tell parents you're celebrating Jesus' birthday.

LARGE group



special notes

This is a big week: the Rescuer we talk about every week...is born! Play that up for kids.

presenter tips

Show 'em the Word! Cut and tape parts of the script into the kids' Bible in the props box. This will allow you to show the kids where you're getting the lesson from - and remind you of your lines at the same time! We want kids to know these truths are grounded in the Bible.

script

Presenter: Hi Friends! Welcome to Kid's Club. I'm _____ and I'm really glad you're here today. Before we get started, I want you to meet my friend, HOPS. She's going to remind us of the kind of choices we can make today in Kids' Club.

Video: HOPS 4 Share With Others (about 1 minute)

Wow, I can't wait to have some fun in Kids' Club today. Before we hear our story, can I see a big "thumbs up" from everybody who's ready to have some fun and hear a VERY special announcement? (Let kids respond.) Great job! Now I think we're ready to hear God's story.

REVIEW

Presenter: (Hold up the **Bible** for kids to see.) This is where we can read about God's story. Out of all the stories in the world, this story is the most important. It's God's Rescue plan.

Remember how God made the whole world and everything was good? The world was perfect! Give me a smile! (Let kids respond. Then change your tone.) But THEN, something bad happened. A snake tricked the first two people, Adam and Eve, into thinking they didn't need to trust or obey God. So Adam and Eve disobeyed God, and sadness and death came into the world... Show me your sad face. (Let kids respond.) This was *really* sad.

But even though Adam and Eve disobeyed God...God loved them anyway! And he planned a great rescue so that Adam and Eve—and you and me—can be close to God again. We've been talking about that KING and Rescuer. His name is...(Let kids say: Jesus!) Yes, Jesus!



script continued

JESUS IS COMING

Now people had to wait...and wait...and wait for the Rescuer. Will you guys stand up for a minute? (Let kids stand.) Let's pretend to wait. Cross your arms (let kids follow). Tap your foot (let kids follow). Say "Arghhhh!" (Let kids follow.) Wow, waiting is no fun! Say, "When will the Rescuer be here?" (Let kids follow) Great job! Go ahead and have a seat (let kids sit.)

God's special family had to wait like this too. (Pause) But after waiting, God sent an angel with a VERY special announcement. The angel appeared to a woman named Mary. (**Show picture of Mary.**) Actually, when Mary saw the angel, she was terrified! She didn't expect to see an angel!

But the angel had great news. He said, "Don't be afraid!" And then he made the great announcement that everyone had been waiting for! (Pick up the **megaphone.**) The angel told Mary: "Jesus, the Rescuer, is coming!" Can you guys say that altogether? Ready? 1-2-3: "JESUS IS COMING!" And Mary got to be his mother! He was going to be born to her.

Oh my goodness! The Rescuer was almost here! Everybody, jump for joy! (Let kids stand up and jump for joy.) Great job! OK, sit down again and let's hear about how Jesus arrived.

JESUS IS BORN

The angel's announcement was TRUE: the Rescuer was on his way. And normally, angels don't announce babies, so Mary knew her baby would be the Rescuer of the world.

And guess what? God really did send Jesus! All kinds of crazy things happened around Jesus' birth to show that he was really the Rescuer. Let's watch a video to see how Jesus was born:

Video: God's Story / Jesus Is Born

Wow, that's pretty amazing to see how the Rescuer is born. And remember, we celebrate the Rescuer being born every year! Does anybody know which special day we celebrate Jesus the Rescuer? (Let kids say: Christmas!) Yes, Christmas! Christmas is like Jesus' birthday.

Let's pray together and thank God for sending the Rescuer (pray, breaking it into smaller, repeatable phrases).

Pray: Hi God! Thanks for sending Jesus. Thanks that the Rescuer was born. We love you. Aaaa-MEN.

WORSHIP

Now let's stand up and thank God by singing to him!

Song: Great Day

Song: Jesus Loves Me

Dismiss kids to small groups. (Be creative as you dismiss them. Ask them to come give you a high five first, or maybe tiptoe or hop--like Hops--to their groups.)



script continued

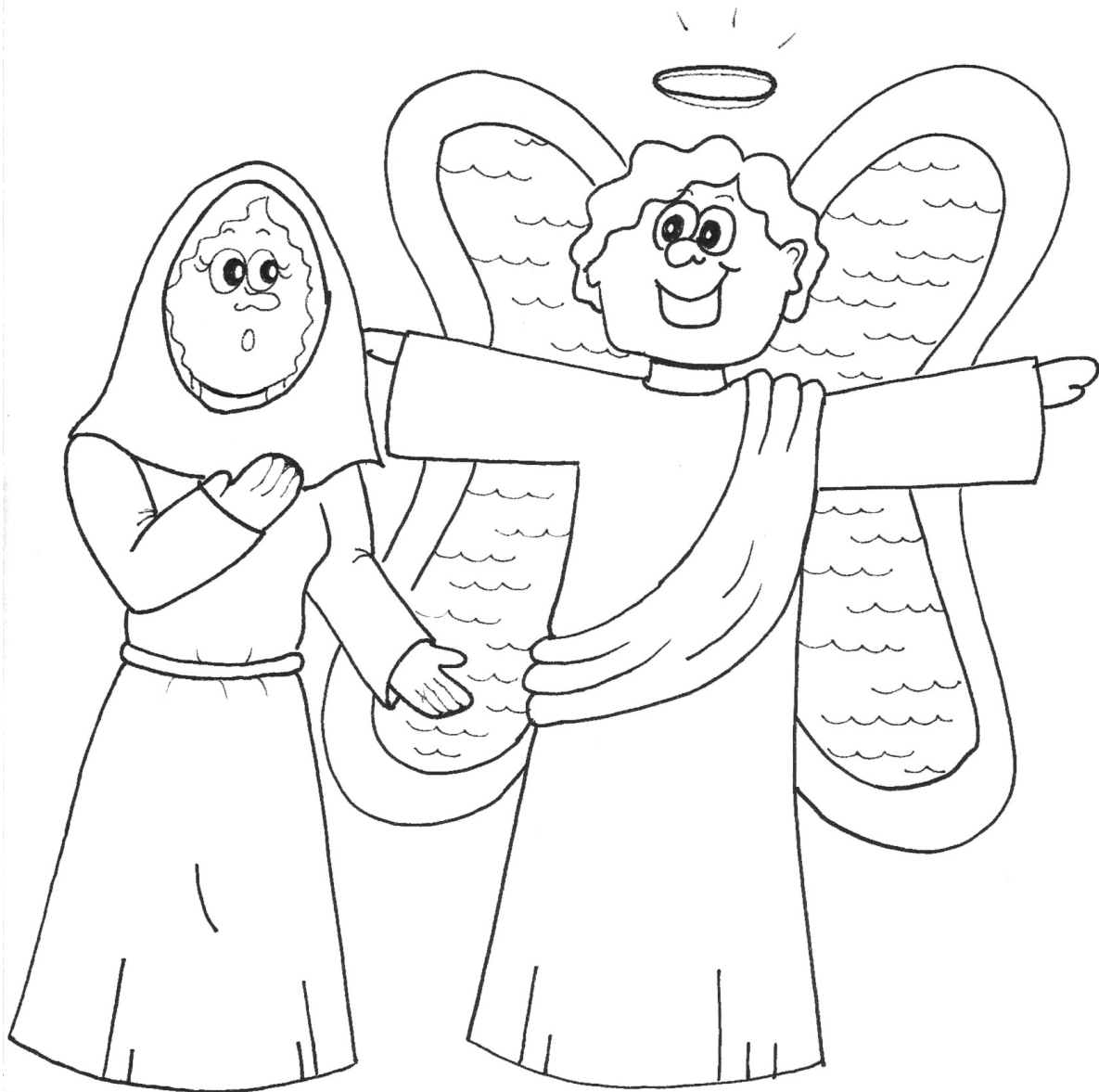
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name



PREP needs



connect time supplies

Announcement game – no supplies needed

small group supplies

1. 1 per group: party hat, streamers, packet of candles (unopened)
2. 1 per group: summary image from video printed in color on cardstock
3. 1 per kid: Christmas maraca (OT: IN-4/5121)
4. Coloring Page: Angel visits Mary

large group supplies

Megaphone
Bible

a/v needs

1. Video: HOPS 4 Share With Others
2. Image: frightened Mary
3. Video: God's Story / Christmas
4. Song: Great Day
5. Music Video: Jesus Loves Me (one shot)

connect questions

Tell me about the Rescuer.
How can we celebrate Jesus' birthday?

parent page

Each week, we talk about how God sent a Rescuer. This week's lesson was really exciting, because it's about the time Jesus, the Rescuer, was born! We celebrate his birthday every year at Christmas—and we started celebrating today. You can read about Jesus' birth in Luke 1-2 or watch "God's Story: Christmas" on CrossroadsKidsClub.net.