



# 3<sup>rd</sup> - 5<sup>th</sup>

December 10-11, 2016

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

As kids leave, ask them why they made a gift box!

## 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.*

### CHRISTMAS COSTUMES

*\*Play Christmas music on the **keynote** for this activity.*

- Split kids into **small groups**.
- Give each group a **roll of green streamers**, a **roll of tape**, and a **bin** full of the following materials:
  - **24 paper ornaments**
  - **5 pieces of ribbon**
  - **1 star**
- Each group must choose one person to be the “tree” and the rest of the kids will be the tree decorators.
- When the leader starts the **music**, each group gets to start wrapping/taping/hanging the materials on the tree in any way they want! Encourage kids to get creative as they try and figure out how to make a person look like a tree!
- Leaders should help make sure all the kids get turns to help decorate.
- Click to play music and let kids go! Once the music is over, give kids a 10 second countdown to finish. Then go to each group and let them show off their “tree!”
- Don't forget to collect and discard the materials.

### TALK ABOUT IT

- What's your favorite Christmas memory?
- What do you usually do on Christmas day?

**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.**



## 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:** The activity includes a flat box which needs to be folded into a box shape; most kids should be able to do it pretty easily.

## small group

### REVIEW THE STORY

1. How did God prepare us for Jesus, long before Jesus was born? (He told us about Jesus in the Bible, he told us what Jesus would be like, he planned a rescue!)
2. How was Jesus birth' announced? (Angels told Mary, then the 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. How will you celebrate Jesus birthday this month? What can you do to remember the MAIN reason for the season?

### MAKE IT PERSONAL

- Hand each kid a **red box**, a **verse strip**, and **1 ornament sticker**. Set out **pens**.
- Tell kids that we're going to celebrate Jesus' birthday by making a gift box for him!
- First, have kids read the Isaiah 9:6 **verse strip**. Then, have them turn it over and write one way they are going to specifically celebrate Jesus this week (*It could be spending time with him, serving others/doing something kind for someone, reading about Christmas in the Bible, inviting a friend to Kids' Club, going to Awaited, etc.*)
- Next, have kids decorate their **flat boxes** before they fold them in a box shape. Encourage them to write a birthday message or thank you message to Jesus on the box. Then they can decorate it with a sticker and images of their favorite things about Christmas (We're using pens because markers will smear.)
- Once kids are done, they can fold their box up and put their verse strip inside!

(Continued on next page.)



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

## special notes

You'll need large pieces of tear-off paper and markers for the end of today's lesson. Make sure to lay out enough paper for all kids to gather around and comfortably write on.

## presenter tips

Here's a link to today's video, God's Story: Christmas

<https://vimeo.com/70354897>

## script

### WELCOME AND WORSHIP

**Main Goal:** Review Connect Time and introduce the lesson.

**Notes:**

**\*Click to play intro music.**

- **Welcome:** Hi everybody! Welcome to Kids' Club. We're so glad to have you here! You did a fabulous job decorating your Christmas trees. Let's give a hand to everybody who volunteered to turn into a tree! (Let kids respond.) Now let's look at another type of human Christmas tree...
- **(Image: Human Christmas Tree)** Woah! Can you tell what this is? It's a giant tree made up hundreds of people!
- **Say:** Trees are just one way that we celebrate Christmas in a fun way. But remind me...what's the REASON we celebrate Christmas? (Let kids respond.) Yes, it's when we celebrate Jesus' birth!
- **Say:** We've been talking about how Christmas, Jesus' birth, was planned a long, long time before it happened. God had promised his people that a Rescuer would come and save the entire world, and that's exactly what happened! Today we'll talk about what it was like when Jesus finally arrived.
- **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**

**A BIG ANNOUNCEMENT**

**Main Goal:** Compare and contrast the ways famous royalty is announced, and the way Jesus birth' was announced.

**Notes:**

- **Ask:** Do you guys think that's how excited we should be for Jesus? (Let kids respond.) Absolutely! And when we're excited about something, do we tell other people about it? (Let kids respond.) 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! Something fit for a king! Let's look at a video of how a royal baby who was born just a few years ago was announced. This baby is pretty famous, and someday will be the king of England.
- **Video: Royal Baby Announcement**
- **Say:** Woah! That was a pretty big deal. There was news cameras and crowds of people, all for the royal baby! Is that what it was like for Jesus, though? (Let kids respond.)
- **Say:** No, it was pretty different. There were no news anchors or cameras or videos. No crowds of people or a big fancy hospital.

**JESUS IS BORN!**

**Main Goal:** Introduce the strange way Jesus came into the world!

**Notes:**

- **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, and as you watch, pay attention to how he's announced!
- **Video: God's Story / Christmas**
- **Ask:** There were some different ways that God announced Jesus. How did he do it first? (Let's kids respond.) Yeah, God told Isaiah, who was a prophet, about Jesus' birth a long time before Jesus came! Let's check out our verse for this month that announces how Jesus would arrive.
- **Slide: Isaiah 9:6 For a child is born to us, a son is given to us. The government will rest on his shoulders. And he will be called: Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.**

**GOD DOES THINGS DIFFERENTLY**

**Main Goal:** Understand why Jesus was born in a lowly way, and why he was different than regular kings!

**Notes:**

- **Ask:** Why do you think Jesus was born this way? Why didn't God send him as a powerful king with lots of attention? (Let kids respond/speculate.) Great answers!
- **Say:** Here's the thing. Even though Jesus is our King, and he was the Rescuer that everyone had been waiting for, God doesn't do things the way WE do things. God had a plan, and part of that plan was for Jesus to experience life just like we do, as a human!
- **Ask:** Do you guys know what humble means? (Let kids respond.) It means you don't try to make yourself seem really important or cool, or tell everyone how awesome you are. And that's how God introduced Jesus.
- **(Image: Nativity.)** He was born in humble a way, to a humble woman named Mary. And do you remember what it was like where Jesus was born? (Let kids respond.) Yep, he was born outside, around animals! It was not the cleanest place to be born, but it was the only place Mary and Joseph could find that night.
- **Ask:** Who were the first people were to hear about Jesus? (Let kids respond.) Yeah, the shepherds! They were some of the lowliest people in society. They weren't cool or famous. But God chose THEM to hear about Jesus first!
- **Say:** When Jesus grew up, he did things differently too. He put other people before himself, and even died for us, even though we deserve to be punished for our wrong choices. No one had ever heard of a king doing that. Not until Jesus!

**IMMANUEL**

**Main Goal:** Understand why we call Jesus, "immanuel."

- **Say:** There's another name the Bible gives Jesus. It's "Immanuel." Has anybody heard that name before? (Let kids respond.) Let's take some guesses as to what it means. I'm going to list some options, and you can raise your hand to tell me which one you think it is.
- **(Slide: Immanuel)** Is it...
  - Almighty God
  - God with us
  - Everlasting Father
- **(Slide: God with us.)** The answer is... "God with us"! That's a pretty perfect name to describe Jesus, isn't it?

**RESPONSE TIME**

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

- **Say:** Immanuel is a perfect name because Jesus is God's son, which means he's God too. So when Jesus was born into the world, it was like God himself had come down to be with us!
- **Say:** Think of it like this. 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.
- **Say:** Let's take a moment to think about how Jesus was willing to be born as a baby and grow up like us, all in order to rescue us. Let's think about how he was God's very own son, willing to be a human and get sick and tired and hurt, even made fun of, just to be with us.
- ***\*Have leaders begin to set out large pieces of tear-off paper and markers amongst kids.***
- **Say:** We're going to listen to a song called "Silent Night", and it's all about the night Jesus was born. As we listen, find a spot on the paper, and write or draw something to show how thankful you are to Jesus for coming to the world.
- **Say:** You can list the things that you're thankful for, or write down why you need Jesus to rescue you, or maybe just write a prayer to him. After that, find a spot to sit and close your eyes and just listen, or watch the screen.
- **Song: Silent Night**

**PRAYER AND WORSHIP**

**Main Goal:** Close the lesson with prayer and worship.

- **Say:** No matter what's going on this Christmas, Jesus came to rescue us, so let's focus on Him and his goodness today! It's Jesus' birthday, so it's time to celebrate!
- **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:** We've got one more worship song, so everybody stand up and watch, listen and dance along if you want! (If you want, encourage kids to clap/stomp to the beat if they don't want to dance.)
- **Music Video: Born is the King (It's Christmas!)**



# PREP needs



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## connect time supplies

**Per small group:** 1 roll of green streamers (OT: IN-70/59), 24 paper ornaments (color, 6 per 8.5x11 page, page 10), 5 pieces of ribbon (Party City: SKU: 70175; each piece 5 feet long), 1 star (color, 1 per 8.5x11 page, page 11), 1 roll of tape, 1 bin

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## small group supplies

**Per group:** pens, markers

**Per kid:** 1 red box (OT:IN-3/2611), 1 verse strip (BW, 6 per 8.5x11 page, page 12 ), 1 ornament sticker (OT: IN-4/3553)

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## large group supplies

**Per Group:** Bible, 1 sheet of tear off paper per group, markers

**Per kid:** none

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## a/v needs

\*Make AV #2 and #3 play automatically, so no clicking is needed.

1. Song: (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gFtb3EtjEic>)
2. Song: ([https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=\\_6xNuUEnh2g](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=_6xNuUEnh2g))
3. Song: (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0byH9h1CIBY>)
4. Song slide: for when kids enter the room (All that You Need instrumental; mp3 only; can be downloaded on website)
5. Image: Human Christmas Tree
6. Video: How Disney Characters Feel About the Holidays (0:00-1:07; [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=q7IZ\\_kwfobE](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=q7IZ_kwfobE))
7. Video: Royal Baby Announcement (0:00-0:55; <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tr3AEyzgoMU>)
8. Video: God's Story / Christmas (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nk58bHnJLD4&feature=youtu.be>)
9. Slide: Isaiah 9:6 For a child is born to us, a son is given to us. The government will rest on his shoulders. And he will be called: Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.
10. Image: Nativity
11. Slide: "Immanuel is..."
  - a. Almighty God
  - b. God with us
  - c. Everlasting Father
12. Slide: "God with us."
13. Song: Silent Night (<https://www.crossroads.net/media/5846/Silent-Night>; covered w/this video: [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=G\\_1y8RrSyog](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=G_1y8RrSyog); only need 0:00-4:00)
14. Music Video: Born is the King (It's Christmas!)(<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Qf6OoAZbAQg>)

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## connect questions

Tell me about Jesus' birth.

How did people know Jesus was coming?





**Isaiah 9:6 For a child is born to us, a son is given to us. The government will rest on his shoulders. And he will be called: Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.**

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