



3rd - 5th

December 17-18, 2016

DATE

Worshipping Jesus

LESSON TITLE

Luke 1-2; Isaiah 9:6

WHERE TO FIND IT

We can worship Jesus as the long-awaited Rescuer!

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

While kids are doing the small group activity, share with them how YOU hear from God. What are the different ways that he speaks to you, and what does he say or show you?

check-in/out

As kids leave, ask them why they have a prayer journal, and what they'll use it for.

large group heads up

This week we'll continue the Christmas story by talking about how God spoke to different people about the arrival of the Rescuer, and how they responded with joyful worship!



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 CONTEST

**You may want to tape up pieces of paper on the wall beforehand, and then have each group go to a piece of paper when prompted.*

- Divide kids into **small groups** and give them each a **large sheet of tear-off paper** and **markers** (**Tape** the paper on the wall for this activity.)
- Divide your small group into two teams. One team will be the **drawers**, and the other team will be the **actors**.
- The leader of the group will have a **page of secret Christmas words**. Have each team send 1 kid up while the rest of the team sits.
- The leader will whisper the first secret Christmas word to *both* kids, and then on the count of 3, the kid from the “drawers” team has to **draw** the Christmas word, while the kid from the “actors” team has to **act out** the word. Both kids must be completely silent!
- Whichever team guesses the Christmas word first, gets a point! Let each kid have a turn drawing/acting out a word for their team, and award a point each round. (If your group does better *without* the competition element, skip the points and just let kids play.)
- Make sure the teams are focusing on their own team mate, and not on the other team! Also, if one group seems to be struggling with acting verses drawing, let teams switch being drawers and actors!

TALK ABOUT IT

- Was it hard to guess the secret words? Why?
- What's the best Christmas gift you've ever received?

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 how God spoke to people before, during and after Jesus' birth, (2) recognize that God speaks to us and (3) identify how we can give our worship to Jesus.

Why? There's a clear pattern in the Christmas story—God speaks, and people worship him in response!

Tip: Make sure to leave time for both prayer and quiet time in today's activity.

small group

REVIEW THE STORY

1. How did God speak to the shepherds? (Angels.) How did they respond? (They rejoiced/ran to see baby Jesus; they worshipped him again when they went home.)
2. How did God speak to Simeon and Anna? (Through the Holy Spirit.) How did they respond? (They worshipped Jesus when they met him, and were overjoyed, etc.)
3. How did God speak to the magi/wise men? (He led them to Jesus with a star; he warned them about King Herod in a dream.) How did they worship Jesus? (They gave him gifts; gold, frankincense and myrrh.)
4. What does it mean to worship Jesus? (Focus on him/spend time with him, tell him how wonderful he is, give him thanks and praise, celebrate him.)
5. What are some ways we can worship Jesus? (Here are some hints to help kids think of things: spend time with just him, pray, sing, dance, give gifts, bow, tell Jesus why we love him, read the Bible, obey/follow him, help others, thank him, etc.)

MAKE IT PERSONAL

- Tell kids that we're going to **pray** together before our activity today.
- Pray this as a group: "*God, speak to us right now. We are ready to listen to you. We want to be closer to you, and experience your love. Amen.*"
- After the prayer, tell kids that we're going to have a few minutes of quiet time. Tell them to put their heads down and keep their eyes closed, but don't talk. (Remind kids that God might give them a word or picture, or maybe put a thought in their head that he wants them to do. This is a time to listen to him.)
- After a few minutes, have kids open their eyes, then hand them a **journal**, and **markers**.

(Continued on next page.)

- Tell kids that this is a prayer journal, and it's a place they can write or draw what they hear from God, as well as what they want to say to him. It can be a way to worship, by focusing on Jesus through writing and drawing! They can fill it up today, or leave space for another time.
- If there's time, let kids share with the group what they wrote or drew!

Extra time? Play Christmas Pictionary! It's Pictionary, but with Christmas-related images, like tree, ornament, star, candy cane, etc.!

special notes

There are three main sections to today's story. 1) The shepherds, 2) Simeon and Anna, and 3) the wise men. All these people heard from God, and worshipped him as a result!

presenter tips

You can find today's God's Story video at crossroadskidsclub.net/weekend.

*There are several short videos in today's script, but they are each only 1 minute or less.

script

WELCOME AND WORSHIP

Main Goal: Review Connect Time and introduce the lesson.

Notes:

***Click to play intro music.**

- **Say:** Hey everybody! Welcome to Kids' Club. We're so glad to have you here! Before we get started, let's talk a bit more about gifts. Have you ever been excited about getting a gift before? (Let kids respond.) We all have! And did anybody have to act or draw a christmas gift in Connect Time? (Let kids respond.)
- **Ask:** We'll talk more about gifts later, but for now, was it hard to guess all those secret words? Why? (Let kids respond.) Yeah, because you weren't able to say anything, you could only act or draw!
- **Ask:** What if when we saw our friends, we could NEVER use any words, only pictures or motions? (Let kids respond.) That would be pretty hard. But are words the ONLY way we can speak to people? (Let kids respond.) No, there's actually a lot of ways to speak without words! Some people use sign language to speak, like this!
- **Video: Santa signing to child**
- **Say:** We can also speak to each other by writing notes, emailing, and texting. Raise your hand if you've ever done any of those things? (Let kids respond.) Yep, we speak in a lot of different ways.

CHRISTMAS REVIEW

Main Goal: Review the main events of Christmas to set up the rest of the lesson.

Notes:

- **Say:** Today we're going to talk about how God speaks to us too, and he uses all kinds of amazing ways to do it! But before we get to that, let's review what we've been talking about all month—Christmas!
- **Say:** First, everybody find a new person and tell them ONE thing you know about the Christmas story. And if you've never heard the story of Jesus' birth, just tell them one thing you know about Christmas. (Give kids a few minutes to share.) Great job guys!
- **Say:** We've been talking about how God's family was waiting for hundreds of years for the king God promised. And finally, an angel told a woman named Mary that she had been chosen to be the mother of Jesus, the Rescuer.
- **(Image: Mary and Joseph)** A few months later, she and her husband Joseph took a long trip to Bethlehem. When they got there, Jesus was born outside with animals! Even though it was a strange entrance, the king was finally here.

GOD SPEAKS TO THE SHEPHERDS

Main Goal: See how God speaks to the shepherds, and they worshipped in return!

Notes:

- **Say:** We've talked a lot about what happened before Jesus was born, and how he came into the world. But today, we'll hear more about what happened AFTER Jesus arrived, and it all involves God speaking to people!
- **Ask:** Do you know who the FIRST people were to hear the news about Jesus? (Let kids respond.) Yep, a group of shepherds! Let's watch a video and see how it happened. As you watch, figure out how God spoke to them.
- **Video: Shepherds (1 min)**
- **Ask:** So how did God speak to the shepherds? (Let kids respond.) Yep, through angels in the sky! And what did the shepherds do when the angels told them about baby Jesus's birth? (Let kids respond.) Yes, they were SO excited! They were rejoicing and celebrating and they ran to see him as fast as they could!
- **Say:** There's another really important part here. Let's see what it is in this verse:
- **Slide: Luke 2:20** The shepherds went back to their flocks, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen. It was just as the angel had told them.
- **Ask:** What did the shepherds do when they returned to their regular, everyday lives? (Let kids respond.) Yep, they worshipped God! They glorified and praised him, which basically means they told God how wonderful he was!

GOD SPEAKS TO SIMEON AND ANNA

Main Goal: See how God spoke to Simeon and Anna through the Holy Spirit.

Notes:

- **Say:** Now let's talk about some other people who heard from God! Their names were Simeon and Anna, and they lived right around the time that Jesus was born.
- **Say:** Let's watch a video and see what happens when they finally get to meet the Rescuer. As you watch, pay attention to the special way that God speaks to Simeon and Anna.
- **Video: God's Story / Simeon and Anna**
- **Ask:** Who can tell me *how* God first spoke to Simeon, back before Jesus had been born? (Let kids respond.) Yeah, he spoke through the Holy Spirit! The Holy Spirit is the part of God that actually lives inside us, and is with us everyday, helping us follow him.
- **Say:** The Holy Spirit told Simeon that the Rescuer would be born while Simeon was still alive. And then it said he should go to the temple, which turned out to be the exact time that Jesus would be there!
- **Ask:** At first, Simeon didn't know why God wanted him to go to the temple. Why do you think God might ask us to do things that we don't understand right away? (Let kids respond and speculate.)
- **Say:** Yeah, a part of following God is trusting him, and obeying him, even if we don't understand his plan at first. We can have faith in him, because in the end, God's plans are perfect, and will work out exactly as he wants them to.

SIMEON AND ANNA WORSHIP GOD

Main Goal: Understand why Simeon and Anna worshipped God!

Notes:

- **Ask:** After Simeon and Anna got to meet Jesus, and they realized he was the Rescuer they had been waiting for, what did they both do? I'll give you a hint: It's the same thing the shepherds did after they found out about Jesus! (Let kids respond.)
- **Say:** Yep, Simeon and Anna both worshipped God, and praised him for sending the Rescuer. They were full of joy and excitement, they could barely contain it!
- **(Loop: Confetti.)** Imagine being at a birthday party, and you're celebrating someone. How do you show your excitement? (Let kids respond.) You might sing, throw confetti, give them presents, and just ACT really excited for them! We can do the same with God. We can sing to him, tell him how much we love him, and express it out loud. We can also focus on him, and spend time with him, just like we would focus on someone at their birthday!

<p>GOD SPEAKS TO THE WISE MEN</p> <p>Main Goal: See how God spoke to the wise men, and they worshipped Jesus with gifts and praise.</p> <p>Notes:</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Say: The last group of people we'll talk about is the wise men, or magi. Let's watch a short clip and see what happened when God spoke to them. Pay attention to the unusual way they hear from him! ● Video: Wise Men (1 min) ● Say: So how did God speak to the magi? (Let kids respond.) Yeah, first, he led them to Jesus with a star in the sky! And they followed the star a LONG way. ● (Loop: Starry sky—let play as long as you want.) Can you imagine wanting to see Jesus and worship him SO much that you traveled and walked over mountains and across deserts...for months and months? Well that's what they did. And once they found Jesus, they worshipped in a really special way. What did they do? (Let kids respond.) ● Say: Yeah, they gave him special gifts! It was there way of telling him that he deserves worship, and praise and celebration.
<p>RESPONSE TIME</p> <p>Main Goal: Give kids a chance to actively respond to what they've heard today.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Say: All these groups of people—the shepherds, Simeon and Anna, the wise men—God spoke to all of them, and they responded by worshipping him. God speaks to US too, and we can worship him because of that! And we don't have to walk for months and months or deal with angry kings; we can simply stop right here and give Jesus praise. ● Say: Anywhere we are, we can tell Jesus we love him or sing to him or dance for him or bow to him. We can even give him gifts by giving money we have to help the poor or giving our time to help somebody we love. ● Say: Let's take a minute to worship Jesus on our own, and then we'll worship him together. First, close your eyes, and in your own way, silently tell Jesus what you love most about him. (Let kids respond.) Now let's pray together and then we'll have some fun worshipping Jesus out loud!
<p>PRAYER AND WORSHIP</p> <p>Main Goal: Close the lesson with prayer and worship.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Pray: Jesus, we worship you as our rescuer. Thank you for coming to the world and saving us. Help us to be closer to you, and worship you always. Amen! ● Set up worship: Now it's time to celebrate! Everyone stand up, and let's praise Jesus. ● Music Video: Trust in the Lord ● Music Video: Savior Coming

PREP needs



connect time supplies

Per small group: 1 large sheet of tear-off paper, markers, masking tape, 1 page of secret christmas words (BW, 8.5x11, page 10)

small group supplies

Per small group: Bible, markers
Per kid: 1 journal (OT 12/2143)

large group supplies

Per Group: Bible
Per kid: none

a/v needs

1. Song slide: for when kids enter the room (All that You Need instrumental; mp3 only; can be downloaded on website)
2. Video: Santa signing (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RPcTB86aT0Y>)
3. Image: Mary and Joseph
4. Video: Shepherds (0:04-end; https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TaeBx6bPlv4&list=UUO8DQzvSJY_oxtQMuxiqmA)
5. Slide: Luke 2:20 The shepherds went back to their flocks, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen. It was just as the angel had told them.
6. Video: God's Story / Simeon and Anna (In Progress)
7. Loop: Confetti (<https://vimeo.com/85659332>; make repeating)
8. Video: Wise Men (0:03-end; https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4qxqCEqf0N0&list=UUO8DQzvSJY_oxtQMuxiqmA)
9. Loop: Starry Sky (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=oWA38bbmfGI>; make repeating)
10. Music Video: Trust in the Lord (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=goc2k9Qe-ee&feature=youtu.be>)
11. Music Video: Savor Coming (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0WV3nTsD_so&feature=youtu.be)

connect questions

Tell me about Anna and Simeon.
How does God speak to us?

Opening presents

Rudolph the red nosed reindeer

Singing carols

Christmas tree

Hanging stockings

Santa Claus

Jesus in a manger

3 wise men

Shepherds

Angels

Mary and Joseph

Star

Christmas lights

Frosty the snowman

Cold

Jingle bells

Ornament

Snow