

WEEK 3 PRESCHOOL LESSON



Need to Know: *God Has a Plan*

Bible Story: *An Angel Appears to Joseph (Matthew 1:18-25)*

Circle Up



1. WELCOME kids to church.
 2. SAY: *Hey, everyone! My name is (YOUR NAME), and I will be your leader today! (SHOW the gift bag) I want to meet each of you, so when it's your turn, tell us your name, pull out one card from the bag, and show it to us. I'll go first!*
 3. SAY your name again, REACH inside the bag, and PULL out one Bag Card. SHOW and READ the Card aloud. HAVE everyone do the motion or answer the question with you.
 4. PASS the gift bag around the group. ALLOW each child to introduce themselves to the group and select one Bag Card. Then HAVE everyone do or answer what is on the Bag Card.
 5. After all kids have been introduced, SAY:
 - *I am so excited to meet each one of you sweet friends!*
 - *We're going to have so much fun at church today learning about Jesus and the special plan that God has just for you!*
 - *And that's what we need to know today. Let me hear you say this after me:* (PAUSE to allow kids to repeat)
 - God Has* (both hands point up)
 - A Plan* (make book with hands)
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Read the Bible



1. SAY: *God had a special plan for a man named Joseph. We can read about it in the Bible. Let's read it together and find out what happened.*
 2. HAVE kids get ready to hear the Bible story by clicking on their listening ears and putting on their special eyes.
 3. SHOW and READ the Bible Story Cards to the group.
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Let's Practice



ASSIST the child with making each shape with the candy cane pipe cleaners.

1. SAY: *God had a special plan for Joseph and Mary. They were going to be the daddy and mommy to Jesus, God's very own Son. God wants you to know that He has a plan for you, too!*
2. SHOW candy cane pipe cleaners and SAY: *I'm going to give each of you two candy canes. Then I'm going to show you a candy cane shape. You can use your candy canes to make the same shape.*
3. GIVE each child two candy cane pipe cleaners. *NOTE: Kids can take these pipe cleaners home.
4. SHOW and READ each Candy Cane Card, allowing kids to duplicate the shape and respond.
5. CONTINUE until all Candy Cane Cards have been discussed. Then SAY:
 - *Holly jolly, friends! Don't forget that God has a plan for you! Let me hear you say this after me:* (PAUSE to allow kids to repeat)
 - God Has* (both hands point up)
 - A Plan* (make book with hands)

Memorize It 4

1. SAY: *At Christmas, we may get gifts like toys or yummy cookies, but the Bible tells us that God has given us the best gift ever! It's His Son, Jesus! Let's tell Him, "Thank you!" Repeat this Bible verse after me!*
 2. SHOW the **Memory Verse Card**, and HAVE kids repeat the verse after you several times. Then, USE the back of the **Memory Verse Card** to practice the verse as a group.
 - "Thanks be* (touch hand to lips, then extend arm forward, palm up)
 - to God* (both hands point up)
 - for His gift* (pretend to rock baby)
 - that is too wonderful* (both hands point up)
 - for words."* (cup hands around mouth)
 - 2 Corinthians 9:15** (make book with hands)
 3. REMIND kids to practice this verse with their family at home so they can win a prize in a few weeks.
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Let's Pray 5

PRAY with your group, having them repeat after you in short phrases:

- *Dear God, thank You for loving me and for having a plan for me. Thank You for my snack. I love You! In Jesus' name I pray. Amen.*
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Stay Together 6

1. **SANITIZE** kids' hands, and **PASS** out **snacks**.
2. **KEEP** kids engaged in Small Group until they are checked out by doing the following activities:
 - PLACE the **crayons** in the center of the group. HAVE kids color their **Coloring Sheets**. As kids color, ASK the following:
 - *What is one thing that you want for Christmas?*
 - *Did you know that God has a plan for you? He does! God loves you and has a good plan just for you!*
 - HAVE kids practice the memory verse again by doing any of the activities listed on the back of the **Memory Verse Card**.
 - USE the **Nativity Song Cards** and SING "The Nativity Song" (to the tune of "If You're Happy and You Know It").
 - PLAY "Melting Time":
 - PRETEND to be a snowman, standing in the middle of the group with kids standing around you in a circle.
 - As the snowman, SAY a way for kids to move in a circle. (EX: skip, tiptoe, spin, take tiny steps, hop, walk, slide, etc.)
 - ALLOW kids to move, and then SAY, *"Melting time!"*
 - Kids will pretend to melt in their spots.
 - PLAY again as time and attention spans allow.
 - Kids can also take turns being the snowman in the middle.