

City SG - December 15-16, 2018

Bible Story: Simply the Best (Jesus is Born) • *Luke 2:1-7*

Bottom Line: God gave us the greatest gift.

Memory Verse: “God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son. Anyone who believes in him will not die but will have eternal life.” *John 3:16 (NirV)*

1. Take a Snapshot

What You Need: Gift bag filled with bows (one per group)

What You Do:

- **Invite** students to take some bows from the bag, but don't tell them why.
- For each bow, **ask** them to share one way to give to others—not only at Christmas, but also all year long.
- If they run out of ideas, **remind** them that there are more ways to give than by simply buying stuff.
- **Challenge** them to think of ways we can give our time, attention, talents, energy, and skills to meet other's needs.

Wrap Up and Say:

“It's amazing how many ways there are to give. Even if we don't have a lot of money, we can give some amazing gifts to others by sharing our time with them in some way. Everyone gets into the giving mood at Christmas, but true compassion is all about keeping the giving going all year long in many different ways.”

2. Dot-tionary

What You Need: “Dot-tionary” Activity Pages (one set per 4 kids, per service), pens, clipboards

What You Do:

- Give each kid a “Dot-tionary” Activity Page and a pen.
- At your signal, guide each kid to work to complete their dot-to-dot.
- Tell them to form their hands into a Christmas tree when they think they know what Christmas song their puzzle shows.
- If a kid is stuck, give them a hint by humming the tune.
- Answers:
 - “Away in a Manger”
 - “We Three Kings”
 - “Jingle Bells”
 - “Go, Tell It on a Mountain”
- When every group is ready, invite them to share their pictures and their guesses.
- Have the “Go, Tell It on a Mountain” group go last.

What You Say:

[Transition] “Today we learned about how Jesus is the greatest gift ever! We should tell people about it!”

3. MV Mini

What You Need: “MV Mini” Activity Pages (1 per child, per service), scissors, zip-top bags (1 per child, per service) miniature gift bags (1 per child, per service), Christmas Stickers

What You Do:

- Give each child an “MV Mini” card.
- “Read” the verse with the kids.
- Unpack the amazing truth that God gave his one and only Son!
- Guide kids to add some color to the pictures, then cut along the lines, making a puzzle.
- Reassure kids that it’s okay if their cuts don’t follow the lines exactly. (The important thing is that they’re getting to practice their fine motor skills!)
- Next, invite each child to choose a gift bag and place the puzzle inside.
- Encourage kids to give their puzzle to someone who needs to know how much God loves them.

What You Say:

[Bottom Line] “God gave us the greatest gift EVER! He gave us His one and only Son. Wow! Can you imagine how much God must love us that He gave us His only Son? Now that’s a great big love! Thank You, God, for Your love that’s bigger than words can say!”

4. Pray and Dismiss

What You Need: Self-adhesive gift bows (one per child, per service)

What You Do:

- Give each child a gift-wrapping bow to wear as a reminder that since **[Bottom Line]** **God gave us the greatest gift**, they can give and show compassion to others, too.
- Model and guide kids to hold their hands together, palms up, as if holding a gift.
- Lead kids to pray silently, thanking God for giving them the greatest gift ever: Jesus!
- Close the prayer time using the sample prayer below as a guide.

What You Say:

“Dear God, thank You SO MUCH for giving us Jesus—the greatest gift ever. Thank You for loving us so much that You gave Your one and only Son so that if we believe in Him we can live forever with You. Thank You for showing us Your incredible, amazing compassion. Help us see ways that we can give and show compassion to others, too. We love You, God! Amen.”

NO “GOD TIME” SHEETS THIS WEEKEND DUE TO CHRISTMAS BREAK