

Starry Night

Christmas Eve

LARGE GROUP

Happy Birthday, Jesus!

HOST:

“FRIENDS! Can you believe it?! It’s almost here! MERRY CHRISTMAS! I have had so much fun this month learning all about Christmas and how much God loves us. He loves us so much that he gave us Jesus! **‘How do we know God loves us?’ ‘God gave us Jesus!’**

(Encourage children to say the entire bottom line statement.)

That’s right! God gave us Jesus! God sent a special delivery to you and me to show us that he loves us. Let’s stand up and dance and sing!

SONG 1: SPECIAL DELIVERY

SONG 2: OH WHAT A SPECIAL NIGHT

WORSHIP LEADER:

“I love hearing you sing! God loves it, too! Singing praises to God is an awesome way to show him how much we love him. And he loves us, too. So much!

How do we know God loves us? God gave us Jesus!

Yes! I am so excited to hear you say our memory verse that we have been working on all month long. Let’s say it together!

God *(point arms straight up)* **has given** *(cup both hands in front of you like you are giving something)* **a son** *(rock your arms like you’re holding a baby)* **to us** *(point your thumbs to your chest)*, **Isaiah 9:6.** *(Hold hands open like a book.)*

(Repeat several times)

Wow. You have done an amazing job learning that special verse from the Bible. Every time you think of it, I want you to remember how much God loves you.

How do we know God loves us? God gave us Jesus!

STORYTELLER:

Friends, today is the day we have been waiting for! The best birthday party ever. Whose birthday do we celebrate at Christmas? **JESUS!** Say it again! **JESUS!**

Many of you know the story of Jesus' birthday. I want you to help me remember the story. Let's open our presents and see!

1. **A baby!** God sent an angel to tell Mary that she was going to have a baby. And who was that most special baby? **JESUS!**
2. **A donkey!** Mary rode on a donkey all the way to Bethlehem where the baby was born! What was the name of the baby? **JESUS!**
3. **Sheep!** The angels went and told the Shepherds that the baby had been born. The shepherds went to see the baby and then they told everyone he had been born! Who had been born? **JESUS!**

I bet you want to see what's in the 4th present don't you? Well not yet! Let's watch Ollie first and then we can open our final present!

OLLIE VIDEO: HAPPY BIRTHDAY, JESUS!

STORYTELLER:

"Should we open Present #4? Yes? Let's see! (Slowly open present). A cake! Who is this birthday cake for? Jesus! Will you sing Happy Birthday with me? *(Lead the kids in singing Happy Birthday to Jesus.)*

THAT, my friends, is what Jesus is all about! The TRUE story of Christmas! Jesus grew up to do amazing things. He taught us how to love and serve others. But first, he came as a baby. God sent Jesus because he loves us so much and he wants to be our friend FOREVER!

How do we know God loves us? God gave us Jesus!

Let's fold our hands, bow our heads and say thank you to God for giving us Jesus.

PRAYER "Dear God, thank You for the true story of Christmas. Thank you for loving us so much and sending Jesus to be our friend forever. Jesus is truly the best present ever. Amen."

HOST:

"Let's stand up and celebrate! God gave us Jesus!"

SONG 3: THE BEST PRESENT EVER