

Dec Week 3

The Shepherds

Dec 14/15

# CRAFT

## *Nativity Sticker Scene*

**SUPPLIES:** Nativity Sticker Scene Package

**TIP:** For the tiniest fingers, sometimes it helps to peel the outline of the stickers off the backing page so that they can peel the stickers off more easily on their own!

### What You DO and SAY:

⇒ **Hold up completed sticker scene example page.**

- *“Today we heard the next part of our true story from the Bible about when baby Jesus was born. Today we are going to put together a beautiful sticker scene that tells each part of the story.”*

⇒ **Pass out sticker scene kits**

- *“Let’s put our sticker scenes together! Can you find the stable?”*

(Draw their attention to each part of the story and assemble the sticker scene together. Continue the conversation as they are putting the craft together and engage them in talking about each element)

⇒ **Complete craft and Bring it Back to Jesus**

- *“This is beautiful! Can you imagine how special it would have been to be there that night when the angels told the shepherds that baby Jesus was born? I can only imagine! They were so excited that they went and told everyone that God gave us the most special present ever. He sent his son Jesus for the shepherds and he sent him for you, too!”*
- **How do we know God loves us?**
- **God gave us Jesus.”**

**Dec Week 3**

**The Shepherds**

*Dec 14/15*

# ACTIVITY #1

## *Look and Find Nativity*

**SUPPLIES:** Nativity Play Set (14 pieces), Star Cut Outs (for larger classes only - that way every child will be able to find one item!)

### **What You DO and SAY:**

⇒ **Gather children around you on the floor.**

- *“Friends! Look at what I have here! It’s a stable! And look at all these people and animals! I am going to spread them out around the room and I want you to find them! Each of you can find ONE piece. Once you do, bring them back and hold them in your lap.*

⇒ **Hide stable, nativity pieces, and stars (if needed for large class)**

**2/3 YEAR OLDS:** Have the kids find the characters and bring them back to you to put back in the nativity set.

**4/5 YEAR OLDS:** Read a clue to the children one at a time. Once the children know who the character is, have the child who is holding it bring it up and add it to the Manger Scene. **Clues:**

- *I am the place baby Jesus was born...what am I?*
- *I visited Mary to tell her she was going to have a baby...who am I?*
- *An Angel told me I would have a special baby who would be the savior of the world...who am I?*
- *I am a carpenter and husband to Mary... who am I?*
- *Mary rode on my back to get to Bethlehem and I say hee-haw...who am I?*
- *I am God’s son and was born in a manger...who am I?*
- *I say Baa...who am I?*
- *I take care of sheep and angels told me Jesus was born...who am I?*
- *We brought presents to baby Jesus...who are we?*
- *I lit up the night sky on the evening baby Jesus was born...what am I?*

⇒ **Repeat activity as long as kids are interested and Bring it Back to Jesus.**

- *“Boys and Girls, this is an amazing story, isn’t it? God had such a perfect plan when he brought Jesus into the world. God loves us so much! He gave us Jesus!*
- ***How do we know God loves us? God gave us Jesus!***

Dec Week 3

The Shepherds

Dec 14/15

## ACTIVITY #2

### *Memory Verse Practice*

**SUPPLIES:** Stickers (optional)

#### **What You DO and SAY:**

⇒ **Gather children in a circle.**

- *“Friends, you have been doing an amazing job learning our memory verse the past few weeks. Today I want to see just how well you know it! We are going to practice it lots of different ways.*

⇒ **Do memory verse all together in a variety of ways.**

- *“First, let’s say it once together.*
  - *“God has given a son to us. Isaiah 9:6”*
- *Now let’s try it...*
  - *Super loud*
  - *Super quiet*
  - *Really fast*
  - *Really Slow*
  - *Jumping up and down*
  - *Running in Place*
  - *All the boys*
  - *All the girls*
  - *Kids only*
  - *Teachers only*
  - *Etc....*

⇒ **Repeat as long as children are interested. If time permits, you can do one person at a time and give out stickers.**

⇒ **Complete the activity and then Bring it Back to Jesus.**

- *Nice work, my friends! I want you to tuck that memory verse deep inside your heart and remember it forever! I want you to remember for your whole life that God gave us Jesus because he loves us SO much!*
- ***How do we know God loves us?***
- ***God gave us Jesus!***

**Dec Week 3**

**The Shepherds**

*Dec 14/15*

# **ACTIVITY #3**

## *Shepherd and Sheep*

**SUPPLIES:** 4 Hula hoops, CD player, and Christmas CD

### **What You DO and SAY:**

- ⇒ **Gather children in the open area of the room with 4 hula hoops on the ground.**
  - *“Today in our true Bible story we learned about the Shepherds. Do you all remember what shepherds take care of? That’s right! Sheep! Today, the teachers are going to be the shepherds and you are going to be the sheep. Let’s practice – what does a sheep say? Nice job, everybody! Can you crawl on your hands and your knees like a sheep? Let’s practice and say “baa!”*
  
- ⇒ **2/3 Year Olds: Place the hula-hoops on the floor and instruct your “sheep” to go into the “pens”. Once the children are all herded into the hula hoops...**
  - *Nice job, sheep! How do we know God loves us? God gave us Jesus!*
  
- ⇒ **4/5 Year Olds: Play Christmas music while the “sheep” roam. When you turn off the music, the “sheep” must race to crawl into one of the “pens.”**
  - *Nice job, sheep! How do we know God loves us? God gave us Jesus!*
  
- ⇒ **Repeat activity as long as kids are interested and Bring it Back to Jesus.**
  - *“You were amazing sheep! In our Bible lesson, we heard about angels who came to tell the shepherds some WONDERFUL news! God sent angels to tell the shepherds that God gave us Jesus! Then the shepherds went and told everyone all about Jesus.*
  - *We should tell everyone about Jesus, too!*
  - ***How do we know God loves us?***
  - ***God gave us Jesus!***

**Dec Week 3**

**The Shepherds**

*Dec 14/15*

# REFLECTION & REVIEW

## READ

⇒ The Bible

- *The Beginner's Bible: Shepherds Visit, p. 277*

⇒ *J is for Jesus* by Crystal Bowman

- Read the story and then say: I am so thankful that God gave us Jesus. How do we know God loves us? God gave us Jesus!

## REVIEW *(This is a great opportunity to give out stickers as they answer these questions!)*

⇒ Key Question and Bottom Line

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

⇒ Memory Verse

- **God has given a son to us. Isaiah 9:6**

⇒ Basic Truth

- **God loves me.**

⇒ Connect it!

- **“When the angels came and told the shepherds that baby Jesus was born, they went to see him right away. They were so excited that they ran and told everyone that God gave us Jesus! Today we are going to make a list of people we can tell God gave us Jesus, just like the shepherds did. When I say your name, tell me one person you can tell God gave us Jesus, and I will write it down.**

⇒ PlayDoh (Stable page in page protector)

- Use the play doh to create the nativity scene on the stable.

## PRAY

*“Dear God, we want everyone to know that God gave us Jesus. Please help [child's name] tell [person's name] God gave us Jesus. (Repeat for each child.) We love You, God! In Jesus' name, amen.”*