

City LG—December 11th, 2022

Today's Bible Story: The Greatest Gift (Jesus Is Born) • *Luke 2:1-7*

Today's Bottom Line: Jesus is the greatest gift.

Monthly Memory Verse: *Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you. He is the Messiah, the Lord.* Luke 2:11 (NIRV)

WORSHIP: “Dance” and “Noel”

“Hi, everyone! We’ve had a great month so far seeing how God’s plan led up to the birth of Jesus. God’s plan actually goes way back to the very beginning!

“In the beginning, God made the world and everything in it. God created everything out of a deep, deep love—including people. But when people turned away from God, the world was broken.

“God had a plan to bless the whole world through Abraham’s family, the Israelites. But over and over again, the people turned away from God. Things got so bad that eventually, other nations invaded and captured the Israelites. God’s people must have wondered if God still loved them and had a plan for them.

“God spoke through prophets about the great Rescuer who would come when the time was right. Many years later, God sent an angel to tell a young woman named Mary that she would have a very special baby.

“Now listen, we’ve got a lot to celebrate today, because Christmas is almost here! I’ve got the perfect way to talk about when Jesus was born. Let’s take a look at this week’s Story Lab!”

CG: Lesson Video (Runtime: 10:00)

“Jesus would grow up to teach people amazing things about God and heal people who were sick. Jesus spent His days showing love and showing people what God is like. Eventually, Jesus chose to lay down His life for all of us when He died on the cross for our sins. Because of Jesus, we can have a relationship with God that lasts forever! That’s why Jesus is the GREATEST gift. Let’s learn this week’s Bottom Line together.”

CG: Bottom Line Video (Runtime: 1:00)

SLIDE: Bottom Line

[Bottom Line] “Jesus is the greatest gift.”

“That’s right! Let’s pray.”

PRAY: “God, thank You so much for giving us the greatest gift ever. It was always Your plan to send Your Son, Jesus, to be our Savior! Thank You for loving us so much and helping us know that **[Basic Truth]** we can trust You no matter what. Today, we want to honor You and thank You for sending Jesus for us. We love You, and we pray these things in Jesus’ name. Amen.”

“Jesus was and IS the Savior God had promised!

“As we get ready to celebrate Christmas, let’s take time to thank God for sending Jesus. Let’s remember what Christmas is really about. Let’s remember the BEST and most important gift we could ever receive, which is to know Jesus and put our trust in Him.”

OFFERING TIME:

We are giving our offering to our friends in Mexico through an organization called Vida Nueva Ministries. Unfortunately, many families in Mexico don’t have enough money for food or education. Vida Nueva Ministries is dedicated to overcoming poverty through education. Here is a picture of one of their amazing teachers.

SLIDE: Teacher in Classroom

Vida Nueva has built an entire set of schools in the city of Piedras Negras, where kids of all backgrounds can come and learn. They also receive meals and hear about Jesus. Isn’t that great? So, if you brought an offering today, you can bring it up now!

Slide: WinterPalooza

Also before I go, I want to tell you about an amazing event we have coming up after you come back from Christmas break. It’s called WinterPalooza!!! On January 8th (9th too for New Lenox) we will be having a party to celebrate the New Year! We’ll have games, crafts, prizes and all kinds of FUN. So grab a postcard on your way out and make sure you tell whoever brought you that you want to be here on January 8th!!!!