

# City SG—December 18<sup>th</sup>, 2022

**Today's Bible Story:** Over the Hills and Everywhere (Shepherds and Angels) • *Luke 2:8-20*

**Today's Bottom Line:** The good news is for everyone.

**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)

## 1. Lost Sheep

**What You Need:** “Memory Verse Sheep” cards with hole punched (2 sets per Group), plastic candy canes (12 per group), and painter’s tape

### What You Do:

- Scatter the “Memory Verse Sheep” throughout your space.
- Use the painter’s tape to create a rectangular-shaped “sheep pen” on the floor long enough for the verse to fit.
- Give each kid a shepherd’s hook (candy cane).
- Instruct the kids to look for the lost sheep and use their shepherd’s hook to hook the “sheep” by inserting the cane into the hole. (They can use both hands to do this.)
- Direct the kids to carry the sheep back to the sheep pen, one at a time, with each sheep on its own shepherd’s hook.
- Challenge kids to work together to arrange both sets of memory verse sheep in the correct verse order.
- After the verses are in order, invite the group to say the verse together.
- Remove one sheep from each assembled verse.
- Challenge the kids to recite the entire verse by filling in the missing words.
- Continue removing one sheep at a time and repeating the verse until the kids can recite the entire verse from memory.

### What You Say:

“Great job of memorizing this month’s verse. It’s a great reminder that through the birth of Jesus, God created a way for us to have a Messiah or Savior. This means we can experience God’s love AND have a relationship with God. That’s something to celebrate!

“Today, we heard that the shepherds hurried to Bethlehem and found Mary, Joseph, and Baby Jesus. After they saw Jesus, they couldn’t wait to share what had happened with everyone they met. That’s something we can do, too—share God’s gift of love with our friends and family because **[Bottom Line] the good news is for everyone.**”

## 2. Spread the News

**What You Need:** “Megaphone” Activity Page (1 per kid), clear tape (1 roll per group), scissors, and markers

### What You Do:

- Give each kid a “Megaphone” Activity Page.
- Set out the markers.

- Encourage the kids to color the “Megaphone” Activity Page.
- Read the Bottom Line together a few times. **[Bottom Line] The good news is for everyone.**
- Ask, “What does a megaphone have to do with the Bottom Line?”
- Assist the kids in cutting out the megaphone with scissors, as shown.
- Demonstrate how to roll the megaphone so the graphics are on the outside and the seams meet.
- Set out the tape.
- Ask the kids to tape the seams together, including between the handles.
- Show the kids how to hold the handles to use the megaphone.
- Ask the kids to recite the Bottom Line into their megaphones.

#### **What You Say:**

“Your megaphones look awesome! What is a megaphone used for? (*Invite responses.*) It’s a great way to make a message or announcement sound louder so everyone can hear it! Today’s Bottom Line, **[Bottom Line] the good news is for everyone**, is one of the most important messages we can share with others.

“What is the good news? (*Invite responses.*) That’s right! God gave us Jesus, the greatest gift we could ever receive AND God’s only Son. Jesus came to give His life to be our Savior and make a way for us to have a relationship with God forever.

“There is no bigger or more important news than this truth. Who is this good news for? (*Invite responses—us, parents, coaches, friends, etc.*) Take this megaphone home and place it somewhere as a reminder to share the good news with those you meet because it’s the most life-changing news ever and **[Bottom Line] the good news is for everyone.**”

### **3. Good News**

**What You Need:** “Good News” Activity Page (1 per kid) and pens, markers

#### **What You Do:**

- Give each kid a “Good News” Activity Page and a pen.
- Direct the kids to write their name on their paper.
- Based on each picture, instruct the kids to write someone they can share the good news of Jesus with next to it.
- If the kids are stumped, feel free to share these examples: my family, my neighbors, my teacher, my doctor, kids on the playground, the mail person.
- Invite the kids to think of someone specific they want to share the Christmas story with who they haven’t written down.
- Direct the kids to write that person’s name in the blank space under the images.

#### **What You Say:**

“I’m so glad **[Bottom Line] the good news is for everyone**. It’s for you, me, every person we wrote on our papers, and the entire world! The shepherds in our story went and told everyone they could find that Jesus was the Messiah and that He was born! We get to do the same thing. Who are some of the people you wrote on your paper? (*Allow kids time to answer.*) I think I will share the good news with [person’s name] this week.

***[Make it Personal] (Share a kid-appropriate story of a time the Christmas story impacted you. This could be a play, concert, sermon, movie, book, conversation with someone—anything that meant a lot to you and helped you remember Christmas is about Jesus.) I'm so glad to know that [Bottom Line] the good news is for everyone.***

#### **4. Pray and Dismiss**

**What You Need:** Megaphones from “Spread the News” activity

**What You Do:**

- Make sure each kid has their megaphone.
- Invite the kids to circle up with their megaphones.
- Read the Bottom Line on the megaphone together a few times.
- Give the kids a minute to think of someone they might want to share the good news with.
- Close your group time in prayer.

**What You Say:**

“Dear God, thank You for sending Your Son, Jesus, so we can be friends with You forever. Jesus, thank You for laying down Your life to pay for our sin; for defeating death and rising from the dead so we can have a restored relationship with God. Help us share the good news with the people we just thought of. We love You, and we pray these things in Jesus’ name. Amen.  
***[Bottom Line] The good news is for everyone.***”

\*\*\*Remind kids that there will be no City services for 2 weeks and you will see them for Winterpalooza on January 8, 2023.