



DECEMBER 2023
TODDLERS
WEEK ONE

BIBLE WORDS

"God loved the world so much
that he gave his only Son."

JOHN 3:16, GNT

Jesus Is Born

LUKE 2:1-7

BOTTOM LINE

God gave us Jesus.

BASIC TRUTH

God loves me.

The toddler curriculum provides older toddlers with the story and craft element that some are ready to experience before they enter the twos.

The toddler curriculum is designed to be used in conjunction with the monthly crawler curriculum. Feel free to use both in your classrooms.

STORY TIME:

- Tell It

CRAFT TIME:

- Add to the Story



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STORY TIME

Gather children on a rug or in a specific area of the classroom to tell the story. Some children (especially the younger ones) may wander. That's okay. They're still listening and learning!

WHAT YOU NEED: Preschool Bible

LEADER: "Hello, friends. I'm so glad to see you today. Join me on the floor. Today's true story from the Bible (*hold up the Bible*) is the true story of Christmas! Merry Christmas, everyone! Our story begins when God sent an angel to tell a girl named Mary that she was going to have a special baby! That special baby would be Jesus, God's Son!

"Mary and Joseph had to travel a long way to Bethlehem, so Mary rode a donkey. When they got there, they needed a place to stay because Baby Jesus was about to be born! Mary and Joseph stayed in a stable full of animals, and that's where Baby Jesus was born! Mary wrapped Jesus in cloths and laid Him in a manger full of straw. God loves us so much God gave us His Son, Jesus.

God gave us Jesus."



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CRAFT TIME

Gather small groups of children around you at a table for toddler craft time. Depending on the size of your group, you may lead the craft two or three times. Not every child may want to participate in craft time. That's okay. Feel free to send home the craft materials for them to complete with their mom or dad.

WHAT YOU NEED: "Add to the Story" and "Add Jesus" Activity Pages, cardstock, yellow construction paper, scissors, glue sticks, baby wipes, and a permanent marker

WHAT YOU DO:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: Copy "Add to the Story" on cardstock, one per child. Write child's name on their paper. Copy "Add Jesus" on cardstock and cut, one picture per child. Cut yellow construction paper into ¼" x 2" strips, three to five per child.

DURING THE ACTIVITY: Rub glue between Mary and Joseph and encourage children to add their picture of Jesus. Rub glue on the picture of Baby Jesus and then encourage children to add the pieces of yellow paper to the manger for straw. Clean hands as needed.

WHAT YOU SAY:

DURING THE ACTIVITY: "Today, we heard the true story of Christmas! Christmas is when we celebrate that Jesus was born! Look on your paper. There's the stable with the animals, and there's Mary and Joseph. (*Rub glue in the space between Mary and Joseph.*) Add your picture of Jesus right here. (*Pause.*) Now let's add some straw to make it soft. (*Rub glue under Baby Jesus.*) Stick these pieces of paper here. (*Pause.*) Great job! God loves you so much that He gave us His Son, Jesus! **God gave us Jesus."**