



DECEMBER 2023
TODDLERS
WEEK TWO

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:

- Show It

CRAFT TIME:

- Nativity Ornament



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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 and "Story Pictures" Activity Pages copied on cardstock

LEADER: "Hello, friends. I'm so glad to see you today. Come 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 (*Hold up the picture of the angel and Mary.*) that she would have a special baby! That special baby would be Jesus, God's Son!

"Mary rode a donkey as she and Joseph traveled to the town of Bethlehem. It was a long trip. (*Hold up the picture of Mary riding a donkey on a road and Joseph walking next to them.*) When they got to Bethlehem, they needed to find a place to stay because Baby Jesus was about to be born! Mary and Joseph stayed in a stable full of animals (*Hold up the picture of the stable with animals.*), and that is where Baby Jesus was born! Mary wrapped Jesus in cloths and laid Him in a manger full of hay. (*Hold up the picture of Baby Jesus in the manger.*) God loves us so much that He 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: "Nativity Ornament" Activity Page, cardstock, eight-inch paper doilies, dot markers, yellow washable ink pad, glue sticks, hole punch, yarn, scissors, baby wipes, and a permanent marker

WHAT YOU DO:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: Copy "Nativity Ornament" on cardstock and cut, one per child. Write each child's name on their paper. Punch a hole at the top of doily, one per child. Cut yarn into eight-inch lengths, one per child.

DURING THE ACTIVITY: Encourage children to dot marker their doily. Help each child press their fingertip in the yellow ink pads then add their prints to the straw area under Baby Jesus. Clean hands. Glue the heart to the child's doily and ties the yarn hanger on each.

WHAT YOU SAY:

DURING THE ACTIVITY: "Today we heard the true story of Christmas when baby Jesus was born! Let's make a Christmas ornament. Use the dot markers to decorate your paper doily. (Pause.) Great! Now let me help you use your fingerprints to make the straw that Baby Jesus is lying on. (Press child's pointer finger on the ink pad and then on their paper. Repeat as needed.) Nice! Now to make this into an ornament! (Glue the heart to the doily then tie the yarn hanger on.) God loves you! God loved us so much that **God gave us Jesus.**"