



DECEMBER 2023
TODDLERS
WEEK THREE

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:

- Draw It

CRAFT TIME:

- Christmas Book



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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, butcher paper, and markers in various colors

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 (*draw a picture of an angel*) to tell a girl named Mary (*draw Mary next to the angel*) that she would have a special baby! That special baby would be Jesus, God's Son!

"Mary rode a donkey (*Draw a picture of pregnant Mary on a simple donkey. This could be a stick figure donkey.*) as she and Joseph (*draw Joseph next to Mary on the donkey*) traveled to the town of Bethlehem. It was a long trip. 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 (*draw a simple picture of the stable with animals and Mary and Joseph*), and that is where Baby Jesus was born! Mary wrapped Jesus in cloths and laid Him in a manger full of straw. (*Draw the manger with Baby Jesus inside.*) God loves us so much that He gave us His Son, Jesus. (*Draw a heart around Jesus in the manger.*) **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: "Christmas Book" Activity Page, cardstock, self-inking heart stamps, baby wipes, and permanent marker

WHAT YOU DO:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: Copy "Christmas Book" on cardstock, one per child. Fold each child's book and write their name on their book.

DURING THE ACTIVITY: Encourage children to stamp a heart on each page of their book. Read each page of their book as they stamp it. Clean hands as needed.

WHAT YOU SAY:

DURING THE ACTIVITY: "It's Christmas, and we celebrate Jesus' birthday at Christmas. God loves us so much that He gave us Jesus. Hearts make me think of love. Use the heart stamps to decorate your book. Stamp a heart on the front of your book. (Pause.) This page says, 'The True Story of Christmas.' Open your book and stamp a heart on the page with the angel. (Pause.) This page says, 'God sent an angel to tell Mary she was going to have a baby. That baby would be Jesus, God's Son.'

"On the next page is a picture of Mary and Joseph traveling to Bethlehem. Stamp a heart on that page. (Pause.) This page says, 'Mary and Joseph traveled a long way to Bethlehem.' Turn your page. This has a picture of Baby Jesus! Stamp lots of hearts on this page. (Pause.) This page says, 'Mary and Joseph stayed in a stable, and this is where Baby Jesus was born. Mary wrapped Jesus in cloths and laid Him in a manger.' God loves us so much that He gave us His Son, Jesus. **God gave us Jesus.**"