

# This is Jesus: The One We Need

**Bible Passage:** Luke 2:5-7; Isaiah 7:14

**Key Passage:** 23 "The virgin will conceive and give birth to a son, and they will call him Immanuel"(which means "God with us"). **Matthew 1:23**

**Big Picture Question:** What does Christmas teach us about who Jesus is? Jesus is God's Son who was born, died, and rose again to give life to all who believe.

**Christ Connection:** Jesus was born to bring peace between us and God.

## Leader Notes:

### Context

It was no accident that Jesus was born in a stable and laid in a manger. His humble birth showed the type of life that He would live and the reason that He came. Jesus came to serve not to be served. He came to give His life for all who would believe in Him for life. The prophesy from Isaiah proves that Jesus is the one we are looking for and the one that we need. He is the Savior. He is God with us.

### TODAY'S PASSAGES

5 He went there to register with Mary, who was pledged to be married to him and was expecting a child. 6 While they were there, the time came for the baby to be born, 7 and she gave birth to her firstborn, a son. She wrapped him in cloths and placed him in a manger, because there was no guest room available for them. **Luke 2:5-7**

14 Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign: The virgin will conceive and give birth to a son, and will call him Immanuel.  
**Isaiah 7:14**

### TODAY'S TAKEAWAYS

- Jesus' humble birth shows that He came to serve, not to be served.
- Jesus came to give His life not to showcase His life.
- **BL:** Jesus was born to bring peace between us and God.
- When Mary gave birth, and laid the baby in the manger, she knew and we can know that God is with us

## Social: Providing Time for Fun Interaction (15 minutes)

Activities that encourage preschoolers to enter the classroom and begin engaging with peers and Small Group Leaders by providing age appropriate and hands on fun while introducing new concepts they will hear in the day's Bible story.

Prepare to offer the following activities to 3-, 4-, 5- year olds as they arrive.

## Nativity Memory Game

**What you Need:** Nativity Memory Game

**What You Do:**

- Help kids layout all the cards face down on a flat surface.
- Give each kid a chance to turn over 2 cards. If they match they get to keep the cards. If they do not match play continues to the next person.
- Keep taking turns till all the cards are gone.
- As you see them turn cards over, ask them if they know what is on the card and how it fits in the Christmas Story.

## What You Say:

"Who got the most cards? Who got the least? Did you know that Jesus came so that everyone could have a relationship with God? That is what the Christmas Story is all about and in groups this month we are going to look at all the details God planned out to make it happen."

## **Worship Time**

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

**Play the DVD of All Star Kids worship (choose 1 song for today)**

**What You Say:** "Way to go! You are such amazing singers. Now let's sit down to learn from the Bible today."

## **Story Time: Communicating God's Truth in Engaging Ways**

Engage kids' hearts through a dynamic and interactive Bible story and prayer experience in a Large Group setting.

### **Bible Story**

**What You Need:** Bible

**What You Do:** Place a bookmark at Luke 2: 5-7 in your Bible. Invite a preschooler to open it.

**What You Say:**

"The Bible is called "the Word of God" because it contains God's words to us. Everything that God says is true, and all the words of the Bible are true. Today's story is from the third book of the New Testament called Luke. Remind children that all the stories in the Bible fit together to tell an even bigger story. The Bible tells us the big story of how God rescues sinners through His Son, Jesus.

### **PLAY BIBLE STORY VIDEO**

#### **Talk about the Bible Story:**

It was not an accident that Jesus was born in a stable and laid in a manger. His birth showed the type of life that He would live and the reason that He came. Jesus came to serve not to be served. He came to give His life for all who would believe in Him for life. The prediction from Isaiah proves that Jesus is the one we are looking for and the one that we need. He is the Savior. He is God with us.

#### **Learn the Big Picture Question**

**What You Say:** Our big picture question is, *What does Christmas teach us about who Jesus is? Jesus is God's Son who was born, died, and rose again to give life to all who believe.*

#### **Practice the Memory Verse**

Open your Bible to Matthew 1:23. Read the memory verse aloud several times.

**What You Say:** "The virgin will conceive and give birth to a son, and they will call him Immanuel" which means "God with us") Matthew 1:23 Jesus was the person God promised in Genesis would bring peace between us and God.

Transition to small group.

## **Groups: Creating a Safe Place to Connect (25 minutes)**

Create a safe place to connect through activities that are written to reach every learning style while reinforcing the Main Point that was introduced during the Bible Story and applying it to real life

experiences. In addition, these activities provide preschoolers with an opportunity to build relationships with their Small Group Leader.

### 1. Build a manger

**What You Need:** boxes or blocks to build with (can wrap in Christmas wrap to make it festive), baby doll with blankets, animal masks

**What You Do:**

- Layout all the building supplies and ask kids to take turns helping build the manger (where Jesus slept)
- What is a manger exactly? (a feeding trough for animals) What does that look like at your house? Can you imagine putting your new baby in the dog's bowl?
- Have kids place the baby doll and blankets in the manger.
- Then pass out animal headbands and have kids pretend they are the animals in the stable. How are they going to greet the baby?

**What You Say** "Jesus was born in a barn. Were you born in a barn? Do you think that is where other kings are born? How about Saviors, are they born in a barn? Jesus was born exactly like God said would happen to help us see that He came to serve us, not be served. If you wanted to serve people where could we find you? **Jesus was exactly the Savior we needed and need today.**"

### 2. Practice signing the Memory Verse

**What you need:** Memory Verse Poster

**What You Do:**

- Show the poster to the kids
- As you say the words point to them on the poster
- Create simple hand motions to teach toddlers the memory verse. Sample hand motions include "**The virgin** (act like you are flipping your hair or brushing long hair), **will conceive** (move hands in front of your belly like motioning a baby bump) **and give birth to a Son** (swaddle a baby and rock) **and they will call him Immanuel** (point to the ground, God with us) **Matthew 1:23**
- Our memory verse tells us that Jesus was the promised Savior who came to live as a man on earth.

**What You Say:** Our Bible verse tells us that Jesus was the promised Savior who came to live as a man on earth. We needed Jesus to do this so that we can have peace with God. Jesus' birth, life, death and resurrection allowed us to have life with God forever when we believe.

**Pray and Dismiss:**

**What You need:** no supplies needed

**What You Do:**

- Pray- " God thank you for making a way for Jesus to be born in the stable with the animals. Thank you for sending a Savior that came to

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3's and 4's

serve us. Help us all to see Jesus' birth as Good News that is for all people.

**What You Say:** Tell parents something that their child enjoyed doing or did well during the session. Send home the animal headbands and encourage kids to go home and act out the Christmas story with their families at home.