



## WEEK THREE – DECEMBER 2024 – PRESCHOOL

**Bible Story:** *The Shepherds* | Luke 2:8-20

**Key Question:** *Why is Jesus special?*

**Bottom Line:** *Jesus is God's Son*

**Memory Verse:** *"God has given a son to us." Isaiah 9:6, NCV*

**Basic Truth:** *God loves me.*

**Series Overview:** Show and Tell is always a favorite. Children have so much fun looking for the most special thing they can find to show their friends, and what each child shares helps teachers and friends get to know them a little bit better by seeing what is most valuable to them. This month, we're taking a look at the ultimate Show and Tell. God showed the world how much He loves us by giving us Jesus. That is what we celebrate at Christmas, and that is what we will continue to show the world through our actions and tell with our words.

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**9:00 - 9:15 | 11:00 – 11:15 | EARLY ARRIVERS ACTIVITY**

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**Opening Small Group Activity**

*Move: An activity that uses a preschooler's natural desire to move to help them learn*

**What You Need:** Reusable shopping bags, cotton balls, and a plastic bin

**What You Do:**

- Set the shopping bags and the plastic bin on one side of the room.
- Scatter cotton balls on the floor all around the room.
- Help children step into a shopping bag and hold onto the handles, then hop around.
- Encourage children to hop around the room to pick up cotton balls and place them in their bag.
- Once all the cotton balls have been picked up, ask children to empty the cotton balls into the bin.
- Repeat as desired.
- Introduce the Bible Story.

**What You Say:**

- *“Hey, friends, look at all these cotton balls on the ground. They remind me of sheep. Let’s pretend to be shepherds and collect all these sheep. Everyone, find a bag and step into it while you hold the handles like this. (Demonstrate.) Then you can hop to a cotton ball sheep and put it in your bag. (Demonstrate.) Then hop to another sheep and put it in your bag until all the sheep have been collected. Are you ready? Let’s go! You did it! You were great shepherds and collected all the sheep! Come over to the bin and put all your sheep inside. (Pause.) Great job!” (Scatter all the cotton balls again and repeat as desired.) That was so fun! Today, we’re going to hear about some shepherds in our Bible Story. Let’s go hear more about them!”*

**9:15 - 9:50 | 11:15 – 11:50 – LARGE GROUP**

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**Story Focus: The shepherds run to see Jesus and then run to tell everyone about Jesus.** On the night Jesus is born, there are shepherds in a field taking care of their sheep. While the shepherds are watching their sheep, an angel appears. The angel tells the shepherds that Jesus, God’s Son, has been born, and then, the whole sky fills with angels praising God. The shepherds are so excited they run to see baby Jesus. Then, the shepherds run to tell everyone that Jesus, God’s Son, is born.

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**9:50 – 10:10 | 11:50 – 12:10 – SMALL GROUP**

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**Tell All About It**

**[Hear From God | Memory Verse Review]**

*Create: An activity that allows preschoolers to review the Bible Story, Bottom Line, or Memory Verse by creating a craft*

**What You Need:** “Tell All About It Label” Activity Page, Avery® Labels #5163 or equivalent, cardstock, clear tape, and fun stickers

**What You Do:**

- Copy “Tell All About It Label” on label paper, one label per child.
- Review the Memory Verse with the motions.
- Pass out a piece of cardstock to each child.
- Help them roll it up into a cone shape to create a megaphone, and secure the edges with tape.
- Give each child a label to add to their megaphone.
- Say the Memory Verse together.
- Encourage children to add stickers to decorate their megaphones.
- As they finish, ask children to lift their megaphones to their mouths and repeat the Memory Verse together.

- Connect the Memory Verse to the Bottom Line.

### What You Say:

- *BEFORE THE ACTIVITY*
  - “Friends, we’re learning an awesome Memory Verse this month about Jesus! Let’s say it together as we do the motions. Ready? ‘God (*flat hand with thumb to forehead, pull down*) has given (*pretend to give a gift*) a son (*rock baby*) to us,’ (*point to self twice*) Isaiah 9:6. (*Open hands like a book.*) What a great verse!”
- *DURING THE ACTIVITY*
  - “Let’s make a megaphone so we can share the good news about the gift God gave us when He gave us Jesus! We can roll up our papers like this. (*Demonstrate.*) Let’s tape it so it stays just like this. Now add a label—it has the words to our Memory Verse on it. Let’s say our verse together. ‘*God has given a son to us,*’ *Isaiah 9:6.* Now you can add some stickers to decorate your megaphone! (*Pause.*) Your megaphones look great! Hold your megaphone up to your mouth, and let’s say our verse one more time. ‘*God has given a son to us.*’ *Isaiah 9:6.* Great job!”
- *AFTER THE ACTIVITY*
  - “The Bible teaches us that God loves us so much that He gave us a very special gift. God gave us His Son, Jesus. Jesus is special because **[Bottom Line] Jesus is God’s Son. Why is Jesus special? [Bottom Line] Jesus is God’s Son.**”

### Sticker Story

#### [Talk About God | Bible Story Review]

*Play: An activity that encourages preschoolers to follow guidelines while having fun and learning new concepts*

**What You Need:** “Sticker Story Pictures” and “Sticker Story Stickers” Activity Pages, 11” x 17” paper, Avery® #6450 or equivalent, and painter’s tape

### What You Do:

- Tape “Sticker Story Pictures” on wall(s) around the room.
- Describe the story picture, and ask children to find the picture on the wall(s).
- Read the story words on the picture, then give children a sticker to add to the picture.
- Repeat for the next three story pictures.
- Review the Bible Story and Bottom Line.

### **What You Say:**

- *BEFORE THE ACTIVITY*
  - “Come here, everyone! There are four story pictures on the wall(s). I’m going to describe a picture, and then I want you to help me find it. Ready?”
- *DURING THE ACTIVITY*
  - “The first story picture is of an angel talking to Mary. Can you find the picture? Point to it when you find it. *(Pause.)* You found it! Let’s run to the picture together. *(Run to the picture, and read the story words.)* Ooh, let’s add some stickers of baby Jesus since the angel told Mary about baby Jesus. *(Give each child a baby Jesus sticker to add to the story picture.)* Great job! Let’s find the next picture. It has baby Jesus, Mary, and Joseph in a place where animals sleep. Can you point to the picture? *(Pause.)* That’s it! Let’s run to the picture together. *(Run to the picture, and read the story words.)* Uh-oh! This picture is missing the animals. Let’s add some animal stickers to complete the picture. *(Give each child an animal sticker to add to the story picture.)* That looks so good! The next picture has shepherds and their sheep. Help me find the picture. *(Pause.)* You found it! Let’s run to the picture together. *(Run to the picture, and read the story words.)* Let’s fill the sky with angel stickers. *(Give each child an angel sticker to add to the story picture.)* Fantastic! Okay, everybody run with me to the last picture. *(Run to the last picture, and read the story words.)* I see baby Jesus and Mary and Joseph, but we need to add the shepherds because they ran to see baby Jesus.” *(Give each child a shepherd sticker to add to the story picture.)*
- *AFTER THE ACTIVITY*

- “In today’s Bible Story, we learned that God sent an angel to tell some shepherds that Jesus was born. Then, the whole sky filled with angels praising God and singing, ‘Glory to God in the highest.’ The shepherds were so excited, they ran to see baby Jesus! Then after they saw baby Jesus, they went to tell everyone that Jesus is born! Jesus is special because ***[Bottom Line]*** **Jesus is God’s Son. Why is Jesus special? *[Bottom Line]*** **Jesus is God’s Son.”**