

## Today's Suggested Schedule—December 2025, Week 1

**Monthly Bible Story:** Jesus is Born • *Luke 2:1-7*

**Bible Words:** *God loved the world so much that he gave his only Son.* (John 3:16 GNT)

**Bottom Line:** God loves me.

### Story Time

- Tell It

### Craft Time

- Handprint Manger

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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. 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 Mary and Joseph traveled a long, long way to the town of Bethlehem.

“Mary was about to have a baby so she may have ridden a donkey. Once Mary and Joseph got to Bethlehem, they stayed in a place that had a manger. A manger is something animals eat out of. So there might have been some animals there too! This is where a very special baby was born, God’s Son, Jesus! Mary wrapped Jesus in strips of cloth and laid Him in a manger. Happy Birthday, Jesus! Jesus is the best gift ever! God loves us so much that **[Bottom Line] God gave us Jesus.**”

## **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 adult.*



### **What You Need:**

- ☐ "Handprint Manger" Activity Page
- ☐ "Handprint Manger Jesus" Activity Page
- ☐ Brown washable paint
- ☐ Paper plates
- ☐ Paint brushes
- ☐ Scissors
- ☐ Baby wipes
- ☐ Permanent marker

### **What You Do:**

*Before the Activity:* Write each child's name on their paper.

*During the Activity:* Help cover each child's hand with brown paint and press down in the center of their paper. Clean hands. Help children add their Jesus cutout to the center of their handprint.

### **What You Say:**

*During the Activity:* "Jesus was born in a place with a manger. Let's make a manger with your handprint. I'll paint your whole hand brown then we'll place it on your paper upside down to make a handprint manger! (Paint child's hand and press it on their paper with the fingers pointing down. Clean hands.) Mary wrapped Jesus in cloths and laid him in the manger. Press your picture of baby Jesus on your handprint. (Pause.) Great job! Jesus is the best gift ever! God loves us so much that **[Bottom Line]** God gave us Jesus."