

## Today's Suggested Schedule—December 2025, Week 3

**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.

*The toddler curriculum provides one monthly Bible Story because we understand that toddlers learn best through repetition. The toddler curriculum provides older toddlers with the story and craft element that some are ready to experience before they enter the twos. We hope that by sending home a simple toddler craft, you are cueing families to begin having conversations at home with their children.*

### Story Time

- Draw It

### Craft Time

- Hanging Gift

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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 or dry erase board
- Washable markers or dry erase markers
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\*\*\*\*\*OR- use pictures and description from Week 2\*\*\*\*\*

**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*) begins with Mary and Joseph (*draw a simple stick figure of pregnant Mary and Joseph*) and the true story of Christmas. Mary and Joseph traveled a long, long way to the town of Bethlehem. (*Draw a long path.*)

"Mary was about to have a baby so she may have ridden a donkey. (*Draw simple stick figure pregnant Mary on a donkey and Joseph near.*) Once Mary and Joseph got to Bethlehem, they stayed in a place that had a manger. (*Draw a simple manger.*) A manger is something animals eat out of. So there might have been some animals there too! (*Draw a simple cow, sheep, and horse.*) This is where Jesus, God's Son, was born! Mary wrapped Jesus up and laid Him in a manger. (*Draw a simple shape baby Jesus in the manger.*) Jesus is the best gift ever! (*Draw a square around baby Jesus in the manger with a bow on top.*) God loves us so much that **[Bottom Line] God gave us Jesus.** Happy Birthday, 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:**

- ☐ “Hanging Gift” Activity Page
- ☐ Small jewelry-sized gift boxes, one half per child
- ☐ Yellow paper shreds
- ☐ Yarn
- ☐ Craft glue
- ☐ Baby wipes
- ☐ Permanent marker

### **What You Do:**

*Before the Activity:* Cut yarn in 10-inch lengths, one per child. For each child's box, create a small hole in the middle of one of the long sides. Knot the ends of each length of yarn and slide one piece through each hole, with the knotted end inside the box. Write each child's name on the back of their box half.

*During the Activity:* Drizzle some glue inside the box and encourage children to press some paper shreds inside. Drizzle a little more glue and ask children to add their baby Jesus. Clean hands as needed.

### **What You Say:**

*During the Activity:* “Today we heard the true story of Christmas when baby Jesus was born! Let's make a manger ornament. I'm going to put some glue inside this box, and I want you to take some of those paper shreds and press them inside. *(Pause.)* Great! Now let me add a little more glue and you can add baby Jesus. *(Pause.)* Nice! *(Hold up the ornament.)* God loves us so much that **[Bottom Line] God gave us Jesus.**”