

Today's Suggested Schedule—December 2025, Week 1

Today's Bible Story: The Angel and Mary • Luke 1:26-33,38

An angel tells Mary about Jesus.

Key Question: How do we know God loves us?

Bottom Line: God gave us Jesus.

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

Supplies Not Included in the Activity Bags:

Memory Verse with Motions

Bible Story Review- Angel Message

Craft-Heart Angel

- Gluesticks
- Clear tape
- crayons

Story Summary

God loves us so much that He sends an angel to a young woman named Mary with amazing news. The angel tells her not to be afraid, because she will have a baby—God's Son—whose name will be Jesus. Mary is surprised but listens, and God's great gift of love begins with this promise. How do we know God loves us? God gave us Jesus.

1. Memory Verse with Motions

What You Need: No supplies needed

What You Do:

Teach the Memory Verse motions and invite the children to do them with you several times.

What You Say:

"Friends, come stand with me, and let me tell you our brand-new Memory Verse! Ready to hear it? It goes like this. 'God (*flat hand with thumb to forehead, pull down*) loved the world so much (*cross arms over chest*) that he gave his only Son,' (*rock arms like a baby*) John 3:16.'" (*Open hands like a book.*)

During the Activity

"Now, let's learn the motions. The first part of our verse says: 'God (*flat hand with thumb to forehead, pull down*) Put one hand up straight in front of you with your thumb almost touching your forehead like this. (*Straight, flat hand with thumb at your forehead.*) Then move your hand straight down in front of you like this, (*pull down*) and say, 'God.' (*Repeat with children.*) Great job!

"The next part of our verse says: 'Loved the world so much.' (*Cross arms over chest.*) Give yourself a hug, (*hug yourself*) and say, 'loved the world so much.' (*Pause.*) Now let's put that together. 'God (*flat hand with thumb to forehead, pull down*) loved the world so much. (*cross arms over chest*) Great job!

"The next part of our verse says: 'That he gave his only Son.' (*Rock arms like a baby.*) Let's pretend we are holding a baby in our arms like this (*rock arms like a baby*) and say 'that he gave his only Son.' (*Repeat with children.*) Nice job! Now let's put that together. God (*flat hand with thumb to forehead, pull down*) loved the world so much (*cross arms over chest*) that he gave his only Son,' (*rock arms like a baby*) Super!

"Now the last part is: John 3:16. (*Open hands like a book.*) Put your hands together in front of you and open them like you are opening a book (*open hands like a book*) and say: John 3:16. (*Repeat with children.*) Great job! I think we are ready to do it all together! Ready friends? 'God (*flat hand with thumb to forehead, pull down*) loved the world so much (*cross arms over chest*) that he gave his only Son,' (*rock arms like a baby*) John 3:16. (*Open hands like a book.*) Nice job. Let's do it again!" (*Repeat several times.*)

After the Activity

"The Bible teaches us that God loves us because **[Bottom Line] God gave us Jesus. How do we know God loves us? [Bottom Line] God gave us Jesus.**"

2. Bible Story Review- Angel Message

What You Need:

- ☐ “Angel Message” Activity Page
- ☐ 9-inch x 12-inch (or larger) envelopes

What You Do:

Before the Activity: Put each picture in a large envelope. Hide the envelopes in easy-to-find places all over the room.

During the Activity: Tell the children to look for the messages (envelopes). Each time a child finds a message, open the envelope to see if it is the angel’s message (picture of baby Jesus). When a child finds the angel’s message, say the Bottom Line together. Then tell the children to close their eyes while you put the angel’s message somewhere else in the room. Repeat as time and interest allow.

After the Activity: Connect the Bottom Line to the Bible Story.

What You Say:

Before the Activity: “Hey, [children’s names]! Come stand by me. We’re going to play a game!”

During the Activity: “In our Bible Story, God sent an angel to give Mary a special message. The angel told Mary she was going to have baby Jesus! There are lots of messages in envelopes all over the room. When you find a message, we’ll open it together and see if you find the angel’s message! Ready? Let’s go look for the messages! *(Pause.)*

“[Child’s name(s)] found a message! Let’s open it and see what’s inside! *(Open the envelope and hold up the picture.)* What is this? *(Pause for responses.)* Yes, this is a [picture], but it’s not the angel’s message. Let’s keep looking. *(Continue until you find baby Jesus.)* We found another message, let’s open it and see what’s inside. *(Pause.)* Look! It’s baby Jesus! This is the angel’s message! God loved the world so much **[Bottom Line] God gave us Jesus!** Let’s play again! Close your eyes, and I’ll hide the messages. *(Repeat as desired.)* That was fun looking for the special message God gave Mary.”

After the Activity: “Friends, God loved the world so much **[Bottom Line] God gave us Jesus! How do we know God loves us? [Bottom Line] God gave us Jesus!** Again! **How do we know God loves us? [Bottom Line] God gave us Jesus!**”

3. Craft- Heart Angel



What You Need:

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| <input type="checkbox"/> “Heart Angel” Activity Page | <input type="checkbox"/> Glue sticks |
| <input type="checkbox"/> “Heart Angel Label” Activity Page | <input type="checkbox"/> 1/8-inch satin ribbon |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 5” heart cutouts | <input type="checkbox"/> Clear tape |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Crayons | <input type="checkbox"/> Permanent marker |

What You Do:

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

During the Activity: Encourage children to color their angel body then glue the angel to the center of the heart. Ask children to turn their angel over and place their label on the heart. Create a loop with a piece of ribbon and tape to the back of the angel’s head.

What You Say:

“Hello friends! Come join me at the table and let’s create something super special to remember today’s true story from the Bible.”

“Today in our Bible Story, we learned that God sent an angel to give Mary a special message. Let’s make an angel with this cutout (*hold up the angel cutout*) and this heart. (*Hold up the heart cutout.*) Hearts make us think of love, and we learned that God loves you and God loves me SO much. God gave us Jesus to be our friend forever! Glue your cutout to the heart. (*Pause.*) Great! Now you can color your angels and decorate them however you want! (*Pause.*) Wow! Super job! Now turn them over and add this label to the heart. (*Pause.*) Now I’ll tape a loop of ribbon to the back so you can hang your special angels like a Christmas ornament.”

“The true story of Christmas begins with God’s love for us. God loved you even before you were born! God loves us SO much; God gave us Jesus to be our friend forever!

“It all started a long time ago when God sent an angel to give Mary a special message. Mary was afraid, but the angel said, ‘Do not be afraid, Mary. I have good news! God wants you to know that you’re going to have a baby. The baby is God’s Son, and you will call him Jesus.’”

“When God sent the angel to Mary, God showed us how much He loves all of us by sending His Son Jesus. And that is what we celebrate at Christmas! **[Bottom Line] God gave us Jesus. How do we know God loves us? [Bottom Line] God gave us Jesus.**”