

**Today's Bible Story:** Gabriel Visits Mary • *Luke 1:5-66*

**Today's Bottom Line:** God always had a plan to send Jesus.

**Monthly Memory Verse:** *"Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you. He is the Messiah, the Lord."* • Luke 2:11 Nlrv

## Today's Suggested Schedule—December 2025, Week 2

**Today's Bible Story:** Gabriel Visits Mary • *Luke 1:5-66*

**Today's Bottom Line:** God always had a plan to send Jesus.

**Monthly Memory Verse:** *"Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you. He is the Messiah, the Lord."* • Luke 2:11 Nlrv

### Supplies NOT Included in Activity Bags:

**Bible Story Review:** Unbox the Greatest Gift

**Application Activity:** God's Plan

**Memory Verse Activity:** Verse Postcard

- ☐ Bible marked at Luke 2:11
- ☐ Coloring supplies
- ☐ Writing materials

**Prayer Activity:** Pray and Dismiss

*Pray for your group before they arrive. Pray for kids who will visit your group for the first time. Thank God for His perfect plan and for choosing Zechariah, Elizabeth, and Mary to be part of His big story. Ask God to help every kid learn to see that God is good and He loves us so much that He worked for years and years and years on His plan to send Jesus because He wants to be close to us. Ask God to help kids see His great love even more clearly this Christmas.*

**Today's Bible Story:** Gabriel Visits Mary • *Luke 1:5-66*

**Today's Bottom Line:** God always had a plan to send Jesus.

**Monthly Memory Verse:** *"Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you. He is the Messiah, the Lord."* • Luke 2:11 NIV

## 1. Bible Story Review- Unbox the Greatest Gift

### What You Need:

- ☐ Prepared gift-wrapped box with the cards from the "Clue Cards" Activity Page wrapped in the layers

### What You Do:

- Gather kids in a circle.
- Explain that you're going to unwrap a gift that will help tell today's Bible Story.
- Pass the wrapped gift around and let each kid unwrap one layer.
  - *NOTE: If you have more than 7 kids in your group, let them partner up to help each other unwrap a layer.*
- Display the picture and read the recap statement on each card from the "Clue Cards" that the kids unwrap.
- Continue until the final layer reveals the promise—the Greatest Gift, Jesus!

### What You Say:

"Amazing job helping to recap today's Bible Story, friends! Every time we took off a layer, we got closer to seeing the promise inside. God's promise to send Jesus was the GREATEST gift ever, and just like this present, His plan was revealed step-by-step until the day Jesus was born.

"God sent His angel, Gabriel, to tell Mary she would be the mother of Jesus, God's very own Son! A Savior coming to rescue us was part of a promise God made a long time ago. We were under a curse of sin and needed to be rescued so we could be close friends with God again! So God worked on His great rescue plan step after step after step. And every step of the story that we read about today—Zechariah and Elizabeth, John being born, Mary's visit—was a part of that plan. It was all part of the plan to send Jesus. **[Bottom Line] God always had a plan to send Jesus!** And because God was faithful to carry out every step of that great rescue plan, today, anyone who chooses to follow Jesus starts a friendship with God that lasts forever!"

**Today's Bible Story:** Gabriel Visits Mary • *Luke 1:5-66*

**Today's Bottom Line:** God always had a plan to send Jesus.

**Monthly Memory Verse:** *"Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you. He is the Messiah, the Lord."* • Luke 2:11 NIV



### Angel Gabriel

Gabriel told Zechariah that John would be born.



### Baby John

John would help prepare the way for Jesus.



### Mary & Angel

Gabriel told Mary she would have God's Son.



### Joseph & Mary

God chose Mary and Joseph to care for Jesus.



### Bethlehem

Mary and Joseph traveled to Bethlehem.



### Manger Scene

Jesus, the Savior, was born!



### "Greatest Gift"

God always had a plan to send Jesus!

**Today's Bible Story:** Gabriel Visits Mary • *Luke 1:5-66*

**Today's Bottom Line:** God always had a plan to send Jesus.

**Monthly Memory Verse:** *"Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you. He is the Messiah, the Lord."* • Luke 2:11 NIV

## 2. Application Activity- Trust Moves

### What You Need:

- ☐ No supplies needed

### What You Do:

- Invite kids to spread out in the room where they have space to move.
- **Explain:** "I'm going to say a statement. If you think it's true, show me a *trust move*! That means take one big step forward, and then step back to your spot."
- Practice together once with a fun statement like: *"Christmas cookies are so yummy!"*
- Read through statements one by one, giving kids time to respond with their "trust move."
- Mix Christmas fun questions with Bible truth to keep it light and engaging.
- After the final statement, invite kids to sit down in a circle to talk.

### Trust Move Statements

- Hot chocolate tastes better with marshmallows.
- God sent Gabriel to Mary with good news.
- Decorating a Christmas tree is fun.
- Mary trusted God's plan, even when she didn't understand it all, because she trusted God.
- Singing Christmas songs makes you happy.
- **[Bottom Line] God always had a plan to send Jesus**
- You'd rather get toys than socks for Christmas.
- For years and years, God worked on His good plan of sending Jesus, and God is working on something beautiful in your life too!

### What You Say:

"You all did such a great job with your trust moves, and I love your answers about Christmas too! It's fun to think about things like hot chocolate, songs, and even Christmas trees! But even more than all those fun things, Christmas is about Jesus! Every decoration, every celebration is really about Him!

"In our Bible Story, we learned that Mary chose to trust God. She didn't know how everything would work out, and she might have been nervous, but she said yes to God's plan because she trusted God. That's what trust looks like: choosing to follow God because you know He is good even when you don't see the whole picture.

"God's people had been waiting hundreds of years for a Rescuer, and then suddenly, God put another part of His plan into action through Zechariah, Elizabeth, John, and Mary. The whole time, God was working on His good plan to send Jesus. Every step shows us that **[Bottom Line] God always had a plan to send Jesus.**

"And here's the good news: God is working for good in your life too. Just like Mary trusted God, you can trust Him when things feel confusing, or when you're nervous, or when life feels uncertain. God is good, good, good, and He is always working toward something good.

"So this Christmas, when you see the lights, have winter break, or sing carols, remember: it's all about Jesus. And you can always trust God, because He loves you so much that He sent Jesus for you."

**Today's Bible Story:** Gabriel Visits Mary • *Luke 1:5-66*

**Today's Bottom Line:** God always had a plan to send Jesus.

**Monthly Memory Verse:** *"Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you. He is the Messiah, the Lord."* • Luke 2:11 NIV

### 3. Memory Verse Activity- Verse Postcards\*

#### What You Need:

- ☐ "Postcard" Activity Page
- ☐ Coloring supplies
- ☐ Writing materials
- ☐ Bible marked at Luke 2:11

#### What You Do:

- Give each kid a postcard from the "Postcard" Activity Page.
- Read the Memory Verse, Luke 2:11, aloud to the group.
- Set out the coloring supplies, the writing materials, and the opened Bible where the kids can refer to it.
- On the front, read the phrase: "God always had a plan to send Jesus!"
- Instruct the kids to decorate the front of their postcard.
- On the back of the postcard, encourage each kid to write out Luke 2:11.
- Invite the kids to think of someone they'd like to give the postcard to, and write their name in the blanks.

#### What You Say:

"Your postcards look amazing! By writing out Luke 2:11, you've shared the exact good news the angel told the shepherds: *Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; he is the Messiah, the Lord (Luke 2:11 NIV)*.

"Instead of mailing this postcard, think of someone you can give it to to share the good news with them, like the angel shared with the shepherds. God loves that person so much that Jesus Himself came to pay for sin so that person could choose to be close with God again! **[Bottom Line] God always had a plan to send Jesus.**"

**Today's Bible Story:** Gabriel Visits Mary • Luke 1:5-66

**Today's Bottom Line:** God always had a plan to send Jesus.

**Monthly Memory Verse:** "Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you. He is the Messiah, the Lord." • Luke 2:11 NIV

## 4. Pray and Dismiss

### What You Need:

- ☐ Pretend microphone

### What To Do:

- Gather the kids in a circle.
- Explain that today they get to imagine they're being interviewed for the "Good News Network."
- Hold your hand like a pretend microphone in front of each kid and ask:
  - "If you could thank God for one thing today, what would it be?"
  - "What's one thing you're glad God planned in your life?"
- After every kid answers, say a short prayer thanking God for what they shared.
- Close the activity by praying for the group as a whole, thanking God for always having a plan to send Jesus.

### Prayer:

"God, thank You that You love us so much that You worked for years and years to send Jesus to rescue us so we could be close friends with You again. Thank You that You always had a plan to send Jesus. Help us to share that good news all throughout this Christmas season and beyond—that You love everyone so much that You sent Jesus. We love You, God! We pray these things in Jesus' name. Amen!"

*[As adults arrive to pick up, invite the kids to show off their Memory Verse postcards. Challenge the kids to recite Luke 2:11 to their grown-ups!]*

### Inclusive Pro Tips:

- If they prefer, allow kids to whisper their answer to you, and you can "report" it for them.
- Allow kids to pass if they're not ready to share. Circle back at the end in case they change their mind.