



Preschool Leader Guide

Dec. 7– 2s & 3s

Monthly Theme: God Is Always with Me

Today's "Big Deal" Theme Tie: God Gives Me Strength

Snack Time This can be done at any point during the hour except for within the last fifteen minutes in the classrooms to ensure that everything is able to be cleaned up and put away prior to parent pick up. Use your discretion as the classroom leader in choosing when to distribute snack to children.

**Previews of all videos listed below can be found on the Teacher Resource Page in the corresponding digital media folder.*

Welcome & Connect Time:

Use this time to welcome children as they arrive! Introduce yourself, learn names, and help children learn their friends' names. Connect Time is an easy way to help a child feel included and part of the team right from the beginning. The purpose is to help kids meet other kids, connect with their leaders, and feel a part of the team. These "stations" are already found all around each preschool classroom. Building blocks, cars, baby dolls, or any of the other toys and manipulatives in the classrooms for kids to play with. Please feel free to pull out blank paper and writing/drawing materials as well as playdough and cookie cutters. All of these are available to you for use during this time. If you need any other items, please feel free to let Katie Grace or your hallway coordinator for the week know and they will work on next steps to secure those items for your room.

Craft/Game:

Preschoolers will decorate a large gift using crayons and stickers.

Big Goal: Work together as a team.

Leader Prep: Cut a large sheet of butcher paper. Draw a large gift box outline on the paper.

Supplies:

Adult scissors 1 per group

Butcher paper 1 per group

Crayons Several per child

Christmas-themed stickers Several per child

Script: Hi, friends! I am so glad you are here today. We are going to make a craft that reminds me of our Theme, *Best Gift Ever!* Let's say, "Best gift ever!" together. Ready? "Best gift ever!" Great! Have you ever decorated a gift before? (*Allow responses.*) Today we are going to work together to decorate one big gift box on this big sheet of paper. (*Point to the gift on butcher paper.*) You can use crayons and stickers to make this gift look amazing! Remember to work together, share supplies, and have fun!

People often wrap or decorate gifts at Christmastime. It was so much fun working together to make this gift look just right. We are going to have a great time together learning, playing, and having fun!

Activity:

Preschoolers will choose which item they like best and move to the corresponding side of the room.

Big Goal: Find something in common.

Script: Welcome to church! I am so glad you are here today. Let's start by doing a fun activity called "This Side or That Side." What is it called? (*This Side or That Side!*) Great! I will call out two things, and I want you to choose which one you like more. Then you will move to the side that is for the item you picked. Let's do a practice round. Which do you like more? Looking at Christmas lights or listening to Christmas music? If you like Christmas lights better, move to *this side* of the room. (*Point to one side.*) If you like Christmas music better, move to *that side* of the room. (*Point to the other side. Invite preschoolers to move to the side they prefer.*) Awesome! Some of you like Christmas lights more, and some of you like Christmas music more. We will play several rounds to learn about some Christmas items you like.

Use some of the following ideas or create your own:

Decorating a Christmas tree or decorating a gingerbread house?

Eating Christmas cookies or baking Christmas cookies?

Opening presents or giving presents to someone?

Eating candy canes or drinking hot chocolate?

We had so much fun learning about each other as we chose *this* or *that*. We found some things we have in common with each other. Having things in common means we like the same things.

We have many more fun activities in store today as we learn about God and celebrate Christmastime.

Countdown Video:

Play Countdown Video

Welcome Video:

Play Welcome Video

Music Video:

Script: *(Invite preschoolers to count down with you and the video.)* 5-4-3-2-1! Hello, friends! My name is _____, and I am so excited for today. Before we begin, we need to warm-up and get ready for our time together. Let's stand up and do a few stretches. Let's pretend we are decorating a Christmas tree. First, bend low to the ground and place ornaments on the bottom of the tree. *(Stretch down low, pretending to put ornaments on the bottom of a Christmas tree.)* Now we need to place ornaments on the middle of the tree. *(Stretch side to side, pretending to put ornaments on the middle of a Christmas tree.)* Now we need to place ornaments at the top of the tree and put a star at the top. *(Stretch up high, pretending to put ornaments up high on the Christmas tree and adding a star at the top.)* Great job! It is so much fun talking about Christmas! This month we have a special Christmas Theme—*Best Gift Ever!* Let's say that together. Ready? "Best gift ever!" Nice! Today we will be learning about how God is always with us and how Jesus is the best gift ever.

Singing is so much fun! Let's sing this new song called "Best Gift Ever!"

Play Theme Song Video.

Super Clue & Bible Story Video:

Supplies:

"Super Clue: Gingerbread House" printable 1 per group

Bible 1 per group

Super Box 1 per group

Small gingerbread house 1 per group (optional)

Big Deal Motions:

Best Gift Ever! *(Take a present and pretend to push it forward.)*

God Is Always with Me! *(Reach up with both hands open, pointing inward. Bring them down to your chest.)*

Script: Christmastime is such a special time. We can celebrate and give gifts to people we love. Let's learn today's Big Deal. A Big Deal is a special truth we can learn about God. Today's Big Deal is, "Best Gift Ever! God Is Always with Me!" Let's say that together. I'll say it first, and you can say it after me. *(Do motions above as you say the Big Deal.)* Best Gift Ever! *(Best Gift Ever!)* God Is Always with Me! *(God Is Always with Me!)* Great job! Today we will be talking about how God gives us strength. *Strength* is the ability to do something hard. Do you know what it means when we say, "God gives us strength"? *(Allow responses.)* God helps us believe what He says and do what He tells us to do, even when it is hard. He gives us strength to stand strong and follow Him. He is always with us! Isn't that super?

Hey! Did you hear that? *(Allow responses.)* That sound can only mean one thing. It's the Super Box! Now this box isn't just an ordinary box. This box has something special inside called a Super Clue that connects to our Big Deal, "Best Gift Ever! God Is Always with Me!" I wonder what the Super Clue could be? If you are ready to open the Super Box, give me a thumbs-up! *(Give a thumbs-up and allow responses.)* Great!

(Open the Super Box and pull out the physical Super Clue or Super Clue printable.)

Oh! It's a gingerbread house! I love decorating these at Christmastime. Have you ever decorated a gingerbread house before? If you have, give me a wave. *(Allow responses.)* A gingerbread house is made of gingerbread and decorated with candies and icing to look like a little house! But I wonder how a gingerbread house can help us learn more about our Big Deal, "Best Gift Ever! God Is Always with Me!" You know what? We can send this Super Clue to our friends, the Super Crew, at the Clubhouse. They will know what this means! I can't wait for them to tell us.

(Place Super Clue back in Super Box.)

We can count down and press the “Go” button to send the Super Clue to the Super Crew. When I say, “Go,” I’ll press the button on this Super Box. You can pretend to press the button by pressing one hand on top of the other, like this! *(Hold one palm faceup and press the other palm to it facedown, like pressing a button.)*

Ready? 3-2-1 Go!

Play Bible Story Video.

Script: *(To preschoolers)* Today we have learned that God gives us strength. In our Bible story, an angel told Mary she would have a special baby named Jesus. He would be great because He is God’s Son. Mary and Joseph needed God’s strength to believe what the angel said and to do what God said to do.

Our Super Clue is a gingerbread house. A gingerbread house needs icing to hold it up and keep it standing strong. God gave Mary and Joseph strength to trust Him and do what He said to do. God gives us strength to stand strong and follow Him too. Let’s say our Big Deal again. I will say it first, and you say it after me. Ready? Best Gift Ever! *(Best Gift Ever!)* God Is Always with Me! *(God Is Always with Me!)* Great job!

Let’s talk and listen to God. This is called *prayer*. We can thank God for giving us strength.

God, thank You for always being with us. Thank You for giving us the strength to follow You. Amen.

Theme Verse Video:

Theme Verse Motions:

A child will be born for us, *(Cross your arms like you are holding a baby.)*
a son will be given to us. *(Spread your arms in front of you with palms up.)*
Isaiah 9:6a *(Hold hands out like a book.)*

Script: We can learn that God is always with us from reading the Bible. Today’s Theme verse comes from the Old Testament book of Isaiah. *(Open a Bible to Isaiah 9:6. Point out the Theme verse to preschoolers.)* Let’s watch a video to learn our Theme verse from the Bible.

Play Theme Verse video.

Script: Great job! Today's Theme verse was written a long time before Jesus came. God promised to send Jesus to be with us, and God always keeps His promises. Our Bible verse talks about how God would send His Son, Jesus. He is the best gift ever! That is why we celebrate Christmas!

Activity Page:

Big Goal: Provide an opportunity for connection.

Leader Prep: Print copies of the activity page for each child. Set out supplies.

Supplies:

Activity Page 1 per child

Markers or crayons Several per child

Script: This activity page helps us remember some big things we've learned today. As you color and work on activities, talk to a friend about some of your favorite parts of our time together.

God had a very special message for Mary and Joseph. Mary and Joseph needed God's strength to believe what the angel said and to do what God said to do. God gives us strength to believe what He says and do what He tells us to do too. Like a gingerbread house needs icing to keep it standing strong, God gives us strength to help us follow and trust Him.

Room Refresh & Clean Up:

Script: Okay friends, it is time for us to clean up! Let's walk around the room and find objects and toys that are out of place. We need to see where they belong and put them back! Look at the pictures around the room to help. This is an important way to show our love for our church.

-Currently, you're welcome to keep a few key items out for children to play with while they wait for their parents to arrive. Our goal in building this into our Sunday morning routine/schedule is to ensure that our classrooms are refreshed and ready either for the next service or to close out our Sunday morning. We want to encourage and teach our little ones how to take care of the

church and instill that value in their lives. This will also help our weekday volunteers in preparing the rooms for the next Sunday.

Pick Up Time

During this time, children may play with toys that are not already put away in and around the room until their parents arrive to pick them up. Once all children have left, please make sure to collect and put back any of the items that are left out in the respective places. The photographs around the room will help make sure we leave these spaces the way we found them. We are so appreciative of all you do!



Preschool Leader Guide

Dec. 14– 2s & 3s

Monthly Theme: God Is Always with Me

Today's "Big Deal" Theme Tie: God Gives Me Joy

Snack Time This can be done at any point during the hour except for within the last fifteen minutes in the classrooms to ensure that everything is able to be cleaned up and put away prior to parent pick up. Use your discretion as the classroom leader in choosing when to distribute snack to children.

**Previews of all videos listed below can be found on the Teacher Resource Page in the corresponding digital media folder.*

Welcome & Connect Time:

Use this time to welcome children as they arrive! Introduce yourself, learn names, and help children learn their friends' names. Connect Time is an easy way to help a child feel included and part of the team right from the beginning. The purpose is to help kids meet other kids, connect with their leaders, and feel a part of the team. These "stations" are already found all around each preschool classroom. Building blocks, cars, baby dolls, or any of the other toys and

manipulatives in the classrooms for kids to play with. Please feel free to pull out blank paper and writing/drawing materials as well as playdough and cookie cutters. All of these are available to you for use during this time. If you need any other items, please feel free to let Katie Grace or your hallway coordinator for the week know and they will work on next steps to secure those items for your room.

Craft/Game:

Preschoolers will wrap boxes in gift wrap paper.

Big Goal: Remove barriers to belonging.

Leader Prep: Cut gift wrap paper into smaller squares to make it easier for preschoolers to use.

Supplies:

Adult scissors 1 per group

Clear tape Several per group

Gift wrap paper Several per group

Small boxes One per child

Music and music player 1 per group (optional)

Craft Instructions:

1. Before the session, cut gift wrap paper into smaller squares to make it easier for preschoolers to use.
2. Provide boxes, clear tape, and gift wrap paper squares for preschoolers to “wrap” gifts.
3. Demonstrate how to wrap gifts but let them have fun doing it on their own.

Script: Hi, friends! Let's do a fun craft together called “Gift Wrap Fun.” What is it called? (*Gift Wrap Fun!*) Great! Let's work together to wrap these boxes in gift wrap paper. You can take the gift wrap, fold it around the box, and then tape it to the box. When you finish, show us your wrapped gifts. Ready? Let's wrap!

Each one of you did a fantastic job wrapping the gifts. I am so impressed! I am also so glad you are here today. We are going to have so much fun together!

Activity:

Preschoolers will toss pom-poms into a hula hoop in the center of the room.

Big Goal: Remove barriers to belonging.

Supplies:

Hula hoop 1 per group

Red and green pom poms Several per child

Script: Hi, everyone! Let's sit in a circle around the hula hoop. We are going to sit around the what? (*The hula hoop!*) Yeah! If more friends join us, we can scoot over to make room for them. Let's all move back a little bit from the hula hoop so we are ready to play the game. I have some red and green pom-poms here. (*Show pom-poms.*) We have a special job to do. We need to work together to get these pom-poms into the hula hoop, but there is one problem. The hula hoop is a little far away, so we will need to toss our pom-poms to try to get them into the hoop. We may not get the pom-poms in the hula hoop on the first try, and that is OK! We will do our best, but let's make sure to celebrate even if our pom-poms do not make it in the hula hoop. We can try as many times as we need to get them all inside.

Wow! Great job, friends! We did such a good job tossing the pom-poms into the hula hoop. What did we toss? (*Pom-poms!*) We all had a part to play in our game, and it was so much fun working together.

Countdown Video:

Play Countdown Video

Welcome Video:

Play Welcome Video

Music Video:

Script: (*Invite preschoolers to count down with you and the video.*) 5-4-3-2-1! Hi, friends! I am so glad you are here today. Have any of you seen Christmas decorations as you have been in the car this week? Raise your hand if you have seen a Christmas tree. (*Allow responses.*) Stand up and stomp your feet three times if you have seen Christmas lights when it is dark outside. (*Allow responses.*) Spin around two times if you have put up Christmas decorations at your house. (*Allow responses.*) Great job! I love seeing all the pretty decorations at Christmastime. This week we are talking about the best gift ever! We celebrate the best gift ever at Christmas

because the best gift ever is Jesus. Let's say, "Best gift ever!" together. Ready? "Best gift ever!" Nice!

It is time for us to sing our Theme song about the best gift ever. Let's sing together.

Play Theme Verse Song Video.

Super Clue & Bible Story Video:

Supplies:

Bible 1 per group

Small stocking 1 per group (optional)

Super Box 1 per group

"Super Clue: Stocking" printable 1 per group

Big Deal Motions:

Best Gift Ever! *(Take a present and pretend to push it forward.)*

God Is Always with Me! *(Reach up with both hands open, pointing inward. Bring them down to your chest.)*

Script: I know what that sound means! It means we have a new Super Clue in the Super Box! The Super Clue connects to our Big Deal, "Best Gift Ever! God Is Always with Me!" Let's find out what is inside. If you are ready, say, "Super!" *(Super!)* Great! Let's open it.

(Open the Super Box and pull out the physical Super Clue or Super Clue printable.)

Play Bible Story Video.

(To screen) That is amazing! Thank you, Super Crew!

(To preschoolers) In our Bible story today, we learned about Mary visiting Elizabeth, one of her relatives. When Elizabeth saw Mary, the baby inside her leapt for joy. Then Mary praised God because she knew how special it was that Jesus would be born. Remember, *joy* is delight or happiness that comes from knowing and serving God. We learned that God sent Jesus to be with us, and He is the best gift ever! Let's say our Big Deal, "Best Gift Ever! God Is Always with Me!" together. I will say it first, and you say it after me. *(Use motions as you say the Big Deal.)* Ready? Best Gift Ever! *(Best Gift Ever!)* God Is Always with Me! *(God Is Always with Me!)* Great job!

Our Super Clue today is a stocking. A stocking can be filled with things that bring us joy and excitement. We can be filled with joy because of the good news of Jesus.

Let's pray together. *Prayer* is talking and listening to God. We can thank Him for giving us joy. Ready?

God, thank You for sending Jesus to be with us. Thank You for the joy we have from knowing You. Thank You for Jesus who is the best gift ever! Amen.

Theme Verse Video:

Theme Verse Motions:

A child will be born for us, (*Cross your arms like you are holding a baby.*)
a son will be given to us. (*Spread your arms in front of you with palms up.*)
Isaiah 9:6a (*Hold hands out like a book.*)

Script: The Bible tells us that God is always with us. Our Theme verse is from the Old Testament book of Isaiah. (*Open a Bible to Isaiah 9:6. Point out the Theme verse to preschoolers.*) Let's watch a video to learn our Theme verse.

Play Theme Verse Video.

Script: Great job saying our Theme verse! This verse reminds us that God sent Jesus to be with us. He is the best gift ever! In our Bible story today, Mary praised God because she knew how special it was that Jesus would be born.

Activity Page:

Big Goal: Provide an opportunity for connection.

Leader Prep: Print copies of the Activity Page for each child. Set out supplies.

Supplies:

Activity Page 1 per child

Markers or crayons Several per child

Script: This activity page helps us remember some big things we've learned today. As you color and work on activities, talk to a friend about some of your favorite parts of our time together.

It is so awesome to know God is always with us, like He was with Elizabeth and Mary in our Bible story today. Elizabeth and Mary were filled with joy because of Jesus. We can be filled with God's joy because of Jesus too.

Room Refresh & Clean Up:

Script: Okay friends, it is time for us to clean up! Let's walk around the room and find objects and toys that are out of place. We need to see where they belong and put them back! Look at the pictures around the room to help. This is an important way to show our love for our church.

-Currently, you're welcome to keep a few key items out for children to play with while they wait for their parents to arrive. Our goal in building this into our Sunday morning routine/schedule is to ensure that our classrooms are refreshed and ready either for the next service or to close out our Sunday morning. We want to encourage and teach our little ones how to take care of the church and instill that value in their lives. This will also help our weekday volunteers in preparing the rooms for the next Sunday.

Pick Up Time

During this time, children may play with toys that are not already put away in and around the room until their parents arrive to pick them up. Once all children have left, please make sure to collect and put back any of the items that are left out in the respective places. The photographs around the room will help make sure we leave these spaces the way we found them. We are so appreciative of all you do!



Preschool Leader Guide

Dec. 21– 2s & 3s

Monthly Theme: God Is Always with Me

Today's "Big Deal" Theme Tie: God Gives Me Love

Snack Time This can be done at any point during the hour except for within the last fifteen minutes in the classrooms to ensure that everything is able to be cleaned up and put away prior to parent pick up. Use your discretion as the classroom leader in choosing when to distribute snack to children.

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Craft/Game:

Preschoolers will decorate Christmas lights and connect them to make a strand.

Big Goal: Be a part of the team.

Leader Prep: Print and cut out “Shine Bright” printables, one bulb per preschooler. Cut a piece of butcher paper and draw a long curvy line across it. This will be the wire for your Christmas lights.

Supplies:

“Shine Bright” printables 1 per child

Adult scissors 1 per group

Butcher paper 1 per group

Crayons Several per child

Glue sticks 1 per child

Markers 1 per group

Craft Instructions:

1. Before the session, print and cut out “Shine Bright” printables, one bulb per preschooler. Cut a piece of butcher paper and draw a long curvy line across it. This will be the wire for your Christmas lights.
2. Give each preschooler a bulb, crayons, and a glue stick.
3. Invite them to decorate their bulbs with crayons.
4. Guide preschoolers to glue their bulbs to the banner along the wire you drew.

Script: Let’s make a fun Christmas craft together. This craft is called “Shine Bright.” What is it called? (*Shine Bright!*) Great job! Each of you will get a piece of paper in the shape of a Christmas light bulb that you can decorate with crayons. When you finish your light bulb, we will work together to glue your Christmas light bulbs onto the string on our banner. We will make a big strand of Christmas lights to hang up to celebrate Christmas!

Leader Tip

Write each preschooler’s name on the front of the light bulb so it is easy to spot at pickup time.

Script: Look at the colorful string of lights we created together. It was so much fun decorating them and making our banner. What a fun way to celebrate Christmas!

Activity:

Preschoolers will place stickers on the papers of the items they would give to different people.

Big Goal: Encourage preschoolers to help other preschoolers belong.

Leader Prep: Print “Give A Gift” printable, one per group. Tape the pictures throughout the room at a preschooler’s eye level.

Supplies:

“Give A Gift” printable 1 per group

Painter's tape 1 per group

Stickers 4 per child

Script: Let’s do a fun activity called “Give a Gift.” What is it called? (*Give a Gift!*) Great job! For this activity we have pictures of seven different items on the wall. There is a picture of a teddy bear, a picture of interlocking blocks, a picture of cookies on a plate, a picture of an art project, a picture of a book, a picture of flowers in a vase, and a picture of dog bones. (*Point out each picture on the wall.*) I will call out the name of someone, and you will choose the item you would want to give them as a Christmas gift. You will choose by putting one sticker on the paper that has the picture of the item. Don’t forget—there are no wrong answers! This is a fun activity, and it is okay if you choose something different than your friends.

What gift would you give to a family member?

What gift would you give to a neighbor?

What gift would you give to a friend?

What gift would you give to a puppy?

Let’s see what our most popular gifts were. (*Take a moment to comment on some favorite gifts.*) Great job choosing what gifts you would want to give. Today we are learning about how Jesus is the best gift ever!

Countdown Video:

Play Countdown Video

Welcome Video:

Play Welcome Video

Music Video:

Script: *(Invite preschoolers to count down with you and the video.)* 5-4-3-2-1! It is so great to see you today. We are celebrating something very special this week. It's Christmas! Let's all stand up. Now, let's look at a friend and say, "Merry Christmas!" Ready? 3-2-1! *(Merry Christmas!)* Great job! I am so excited about Christmas. If you are excited about Christmas, hop two times. Ready? *(Allow responses.)* Great job! Now let's stomp four times. Ready? *(Allow responses.)* Good! OK, let's clap three times. Ready? *(Allow responses.)* Yeah! Let's all sit down. Christmas is such a special time. We get to celebrate God giving us His love by sending the best gift ever. Today we are going to learn more about how Jesus is the best gift ever.

Let's sing our Theme song about how God is always with us.

Play Theme Song Video.

Super Clue & Bible Story Video:

Supplies:

Bible 1 per group

Super Box 1 per group

Small manger scene 1 per group (optional)

"Super Clue: Manger Scene" printable 1 per group

Big Deal Motions:

Best Gift Ever! *(Take a present and pretend to push it forward.)*

God Is Always with Me! *(Reach up with both hands open, pointing inward. Bring them down to your chest.)*

Script: There are so many things I love about Christmas. Cookies? Check. Ornaments? Check. Movies? Check. Speaking of Christmas, today we are talking about how **God gives me love.** Let's say that together. "**God gives me love!**" Great job! One way God shows His love to us is by always being with us. That reminds me of our Big Deal, "Best Gift Ever! God Is Always with Me!" A Big Deal teaches us something important about God. Let's say today's Big Deal together. I will say it first, and you say it after me. *(Use the motions above as you say the Big Deal.)* Ready? Best Gift Ever! *(Best Gift Ever!)* God Is Always with Me! *(God Is Always with Me!)* That's super-duper!

Wow! Did you hear that? That is the sound of the Super Box! Inside the Super Box is something amazing—the Super Clue! The Super Clue connects to our Big Deal, “Best Gift Ever! God Is Always with Me!” Let’s see what it is!

(Open the Super Box and pull out the physical Super Clue or Super Clue printable.)

Look at this! It is a manger scene. Have you ever seen one of these before? *(Allow responses.)* Maybe you have seen one in front of someone’s house or under a Christmas tree. Maybe you have seen one at a church. Maybe you have never seen one before. *(Point to Jesus.)* This is Jesus as a baby, and this is Mary and Joseph, His mom and dad. I wonder what a manger scene has to do with our Big Deal, “Best Gift Ever! God Is Always with Me!” You know, we have some friends that will be able to help us out. They are the Super Crew. We can send this Super Clue to the Clubhouse and see if they can help.

(Place Super Clue back in Super Box.)

We can count down and press the “Go” button to send the Super Clue to the Super Crew. When I say, “Go,” I’ll press the button on this Super Box. You can pretend to press the button by pressing one hand on top of the other, like this! *(Hold one palm faceup and press the other palm to it facedown, like pressing a button.)*

Ready? 3-2-1 Go!

Play Bible Story Video.

Script: *(To screen)* Thanks, Super Crew!

(To preschoolers) Today we have learned that God gives us love. In our Bible story, we learned that God sent His Son, Jesus, as a baby. After Jesus was born, an angel appeared to the shepherds and told them the good news of Jesus’ birth. God showed how much He loves us by sending Jesus to be with us. Because of Jesus, we can have a friendship with God. That is some super big love! Our Super Clue today is a manger scene. A manger scene helps us remember that God sent Jesus to be with us. God loves us and is always with us.

Let’s pray, which is talking and listening to God, and thank God for Jesus.

God, thank You for loving us by sending Jesus to be with us. Amen.

Theme Verse Video:

Theme Verse Motions:

A child will be born for us, (*Cross your arms like you are holding a baby.*)

a son will be given to us. (*Spread your arms in front of you with palms up.*)

Isaiah 9:6a (*Hold hands out like a book.*)

Script: In the Bible we can learn that God is always with us. Today's Theme verse is from the Old Testament book of Isaiah. (*Open a Bible to Isaiah 9:6 and point to the verse.*) Let's watch a video as we learn our Theme verse from the Bible.

Play Theme Verse Video.

Activity Page:

Big Goal: Provide an opportunity for connection.

Leader Prep: Print copies of the Activity Page for each child. Set out supplies.

Supplies:

Activity Page 1 per child

Markers or crayons Several per child

Script: This activity page helps us remember some big things we've learned today. As you color and work on activities, talk to a friend about some of your favorite parts of our time together.

We can know that God is always with us as we experience God's love. God gives us love through Jesus. Jesus was born just like God promised.

Room Refresh & Clean Up:

Script: Okay friends, it is time for us to clean up! Let's walk around the room and find objects and toys that are out of place. We need to see where they belong and put them back! Look at the pictures around the room to help. This is an important way to show our love for our church.

-Currently, you're welcome to keep a few key items out for children to play with while they wait for their parents to arrive. Our goal in building this into our Sunday morning routine/schedule is

to ensure that our classrooms are refreshed and ready either for the next service or to close out our Sunday morning. We want to encourage and teach our little ones how to take care of the church and instill that value in their lives. This will also help our weekday volunteers in preparing the rooms for the next Sunday.

Pick Up Time

During this time, children may play with toys that are not already put away in and around the room until their parents arrive to pick them up. Once all children have left, please make sure to collect and put back any of the items that are left out in the respective places. The photographs around the room will help make sure we leave these spaces the way we found them. We are so appreciative of all you do!



Preschool Leader Guide

Dec. 28– 2s & 3s

Monthly Theme: God Is Always with Me

Today's "Big Deal" Theme Tie: God Gives Me Hope

Snack Time This can be done at any point during the hour except for within the last fifteen minutes in the classrooms to ensure that everything is able to be cleaned up and put away prior to parent pick up. Use your discretion as the classroom leader in choosing when to distribute snack to children.

**Previews of all videos listed below can be found on the Teacher Resource Page in the corresponding digital media folder.*

Welcome & Connect Time:

Use this time to welcome children as they arrive! Introduce yourself, learn names, and help children learn their friends' names. Connect Time is an easy way to help a child feel included

and part of the team right from the beginning. The purpose is to help kids meet other kids, connect with their leaders, and feel a part of the team. These “stations” are already found all around each preschool classroom. Building blocks, cars, baby dolls, or any of the other toys and manipulatives in the classrooms for kids to play with. Please feel free to pull out blank paper and writing/drawing materials as well as playdough and cookie cutters. All of these are available to you for use during this time. If you need any other items, please feel free to let Katie Grace or your hallway coordinator for the week know and they will work on next steps to secure those items for your room.

Craft/Game:

Preschoolers will work together to create a snowflake out of dot stickers.

Big Goal: Be a part of the team.

Leader Prep: Cut a piece of butcher paper and draw a snowflake shape on it. It should be a line drawing like an asterisk.

Supplies:

Butcher paper 1 per group

Marker per group (adult use)

Adult scissors 1 per group

Dot stickers Several per child

Craft Instructions:

1. Before the session, cut a piece of butcher paper and draw a snowflake shape on it. It should be a line drawing like an asterisk.
2. Give each preschooler some dot stickers.
3. Invite them to place the stickers along the outline of the snowflake, working together to create a snowflake banner.

Script: Let’s make a fun craft together called “Snowflake Dots.” What is it called? (*Snowflake Dots!*) For this craft we are going to decorate a banner. Take a look at this big piece of paper. Do you see the lines on it? We will work together to use dot stickers to cover the lines of the snowflake. Each of you can add dots to the lines. Be sure to share with friends and work together to create an amazing snowflake.

Our snowflake turned out beautifully! We had to all work as a team to make our snowflake. If only one of us had decorated the snowflake, it would have been difficult to make one so big.

Since we worked as a team, our snowflake is so big! We did such a great job! Let's all say, "Go team!" Ready? "Go team!"

Activity:

Preschoolers will celebrate everyone being together by greeting each other with different actions.

Big Goal: Learn a new name.

Script: Hi, friends! My name is _____. I am so glad you are here! Let's play a game called "Say Hi to a Friend." What is it called? (*Say Hi to a Friend!*) Great job! There are all sorts of ways we can say hi. We are going to say hi and then tell everyone our name. Listen to what I call out and then do the action. Let's do a practice round before we officially get started. I want you to fist bump one friend and say your name. Ready? 3-2-1 Go! (*Allow responses.*) Good! Now high-five two friends and say your name. Ready? 3-2-1 Go! (*Allow responses.*) Yeah! Last one—find three friends, wave hello to them, and say your name. Ready? 3-2-1 Go! (*Allow responses.*) Nice work!

Wow! Look around and see all the friends you met. We learned a lot of names and had so much fun working together as a team to welcome each other.

Countdown Video:

Play Countdown Video

Welcome Video:

Play Welcome Video

Music Video:

Script: (*Invite preschoolers to count down with you and the video.*) 5-4-3-2-1! Welcome, friends! My name is _____, and I am so glad to see you! It is time to get up and get moving as we get ready for our time together. Let's stand up. Now let's stomp our feet. Ready? Let's go! (*Stomp your feet.*) Good job! Now let's jump up and down three times. Ready? 3-2-1 Go! (*Jump up and down three times.*) Great! Now let's say, "Best gift ever!" together. Ready? 3-2-1 Go! "Best gift ever!" Way to go!

Let's have some fun together as we sing our Theme song. Ready? Let's sing!

Play Theme Song Video.

Super Clue & Bible Story Video:

Supplies:

"Super Clue: Christmas Decorations" printable 1 per group

Super Box 1 per group

Small Christmas decorations 1 per group (optional)

Bible 1 per group

Big Deal Motions:

Best Gift Ever! *(Take a present and pretend to push it forward.)*

God Is Always with Me! *(Reach up with both hands open, pointing inward. Bring them down to your chest.)*

Script: I love Christmastime. I cannot wait for next Christmas and the next Christmas after that! I hope every Christmas is special. Do you know what the word *hope* means? *(Allow responses.) Hope* means waiting with excitement for what comes next. Let's all say the word "hope" together. Ready? "Hope!" **God gives me hope.** I can have hope because I know God is always with me. That reminds me of our Big Deal. A Big Deal tells us something important about God. Today's Big Deal is, "Best Gift Ever! God Is Always with Me!" Let's say it together. I'll say it first, and you say it after me. *(Use motions above as you say the Big Deal.)* Ready? 3-2-1 Go! Best Gift Ever! *(Best Gift Ever!)* God Is Always with Me! *(God Is Always with Me!)* That's super!

Did you hear that? That means we have a Super Clue in our Super Box. The Super Clue connects to our Big Deal, "Best Gift Ever! God Is Always with Me!" How exciting! I can't wait to find out what the Super Clue might be. Let's see!

(Open the Super Box and pull out the physical Super Clue or Super Clue printable.)

Look! The Super Clue is Christmas decorations. These decorations aren't being used though. They look like they are ready to be put away. I wonder what a box of Christmas

decorations has to do with our Big Deal, “Best Gift Ever! God Is Always with Me!” Oh, I know! We have some friends that can help us. They are the Super Crew! Let’s send our Super Clue to our friends at the Clubhouse. Ready?

(Place Super Clue back in Super Box.)

We can count down and press the “Go” button to send the Super Clue to the Super Crew. When I say, “Go,” I’ll press the button on this Super Box. You can pretend to press the button by pressing one hand on top of the other, like this! *(Hold one palm faceup and press the other palm to it facedown, like pressing a button.)*

Ready? 3-2-1 Go!

Play Bible Story Video.

Script: *(To screen)* That was great, Super Crew. Thank you!

(To preschoolers) In our Bible story today we learned that God promised to send Someone special to rescue His people. That person was His Son, Jesus. A man named Simeon and a woman named Anna waited and hoped for Jesus to arrive for a long time—and He did! We can have hope because God sent Jesus. Remember, *hope* means waiting with excitement for what comes next. Anna and Simeon waited for Jesus, and God kept His promise to them. God gives us hope because He always keeps His promises.

Our Super Clue today is a box of Christmas decorations. When we put away our Christmas decorations after Christmas, we know that we can wait with hope that we can get them out next Christmas and celebrate all over again! We can be excited because something good will happen! Even though Christmas has passed, Jesus is always with us and keeps His promises.

Prayer is talking and listening to God. Let’s pray and thank Him for giving us hope.

God, thank You for giving us hope. Jesus is the best gift ever! Amen.

Theme Verse Video:

Theme Verse Motions:

A child will be born for us, *(Cross your arms like you are holding a baby.)*
a son will be given to us. *(Spread your arms in front of you with palms up.)*
Isaiah 9:6a *(Hold hands out like a book.)*

Script: In the Bible we can learn that God is always with us. Today's Theme verse is from the Old Testament book of Isaiah. *(Open a Bible to Isaiah 9:6 and point to the verse.)* Let's watch a video as we learn our Theme verse from the Bible.

Play Theme Verse Video.

Activity Page:

Big Goal: Provide an opportunity for connection.

Leader Prep: Print copies of the Activity Page for each child. Set out supplies.

Supplies:

Activity Page 1 per child

Markers or crayons Several per child

Script: This activity page helps us remember some big things we've learned today. As you color and work on activities, talk to a friend about some of your favorite parts of our time together.

God is always with us. When we see our Christmas decorations packed in a box, we know that we can wait with hope that we can get them out next Christmas and celebrate all over again. Just like Simeon and Anna, we don't have to wait until Christmas to share the good news of Jesus. We can share about Him all the time!

Room Refresh & Clean Up:

Script: Okay friends, it is time for us to clean up! Let's walk around the room and find objects and toys that are out of place. We need to see where they belong and put them back! Look at the pictures around the room to help. This is an important way to show our love for our church.

-Currently, you're welcome to keep a few key items out for children to play with while they wait for their parents to arrive. Our goal in building this into our Sunday morning routine/schedule is to ensure that our classrooms are refreshed and ready either for the next service or to close out our Sunday morning. We want to encourage and teach our little ones how to take care of the

church and instill that value in their lives. This will also help our weekday volunteers in preparing the rooms for the next Sunday.

Pick Up Time

During this time, children may play with toys that are not already put away in and around the room until their parents arrive to pick them up. Once all children have left, please make sure to collect and put back any of the items that are left out in the respective places. The photographs around the room will help make sure we leave these spaces the way we found them. We are so appreciative of all you do!