

Today's Suggested Schedule—December 14, 2025

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

Check out our Pinterest page here <https://bit.ly/447HSZi> for a visual on some of the activities.

ORDER OF SERVICE

OPENING SMALL GROUP (20 minutes)

SOCIAL: Providing Time for Fun Interaction

Early Arriver /

Opening Activity

LARGE GROUP (30-35 minutes)

WORSHIP: Inviting People to Respond to God

STORY: Communicating God's Truth in Engaging Ways

- Introduce Monthly Theme Poster
- Review Monthly Memory Verse Poster
- Review Weekly Bottom Line Poster

• **CHRISTMAS SPECIAL SONGS – KIDS WILL SING ON DEC 21st IN THE ADULT SERVICES**

- Teaching (Story Lab - Video)
- Review Weekly Bottom Line Poster

SMALL GROUP (25-30 minutes)

GROUPS: Creating a Safe Place to Connect

Reinforcement Activity

Prayer Journal

Opening Activity Made to Play

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.

What You Need:

- ☐ Offering container
- ☐ "Puzzle Pieces" Activity Page

What You Do:

- Before kids arrive, mix up the "Puzzle Pieces" Activity Pages and hide/place them around the group space.
- Greet each kid by name with a fist bump, high-five, smile, or wave as they arrive!
- Invite any kids who brought an offering to place it in the offering container.
- Invite the kids to work to put the puzzle together.
- Once the puzzle is complete, read the headline aloud together.
- Gather the kids to discuss.

What You Say:

"Great job putting the pieces together, friends! This puzzle reminds us of what we're discovering all month long. **[Bottom Line]** God always had a plan to send Jesus! Even though God worked for years and years on that plan, He always had one. Lots of pieces, over years and years, came together to be a part of it because He loves us so much. **[Transition]** In our true story from the Bible today, we'll look at one part of that plan, when an angel visited a woman named Mary to share some INCREDIBLE news with her about Jesus. Let's go find out more!"

[Lead your group to the Large Group area.]

2. LARGE GROUP

What You Need: TV, Pre-Loaded Video Content

What You Do:

- Introduce/Remind kids about the
- Monthly Theme,
- Monthly Memory Verse
- Today's Bottom Line
- **Play Christmas Worship Songs, reminding kids that these are the songs kids will sing with the worship band on Dec 21st at the end of each service.**
- Allow kids to grab a snack
- Play Teaching (Story Lab - Video)
- Review Today's Bottom Line

Lead your group to the Small Group activity.

3. 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 NIrV).*

"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.**"

4. Pray and Dismiss

What You Need:

- ☐ *Optional: Toy 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 (*or optionally, use a toy one*) 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.

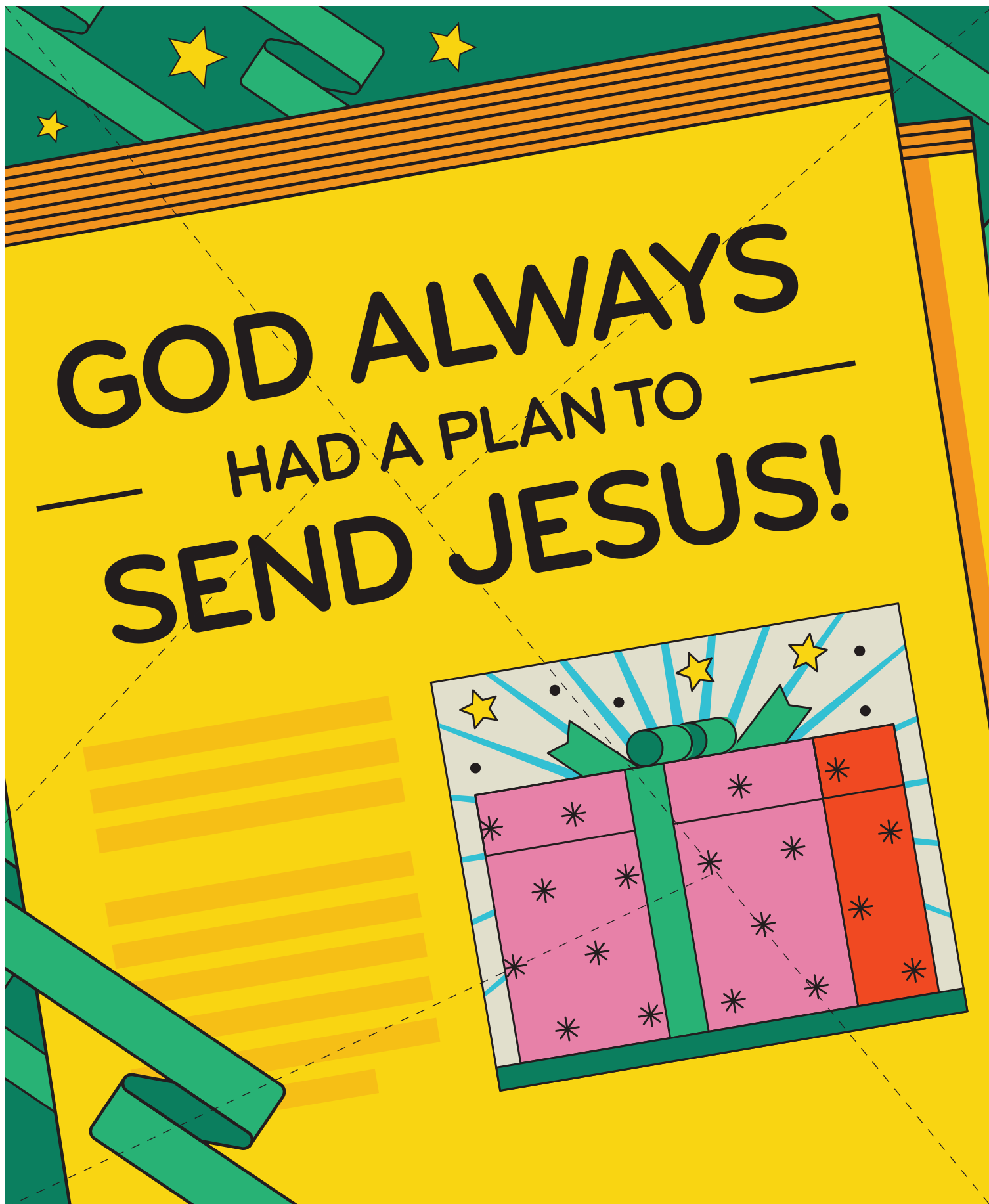
Prayer:

"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.



What to Do:
Print on cardstock and cut apart, one set for each Small Group.

"Puzzle Pieces" Activity Page
December 2025, Week 2, Small Group 2-3
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Four vertical lines for writing



WRITE THE MEMORY
VERSE BELOW!
LUKE 2:11



Four vertical lines for writing



WRITE THE MEMORY
VERSE BELOW!
LUKE 2:11



Four vertical lines for writing



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VERSE BELOW!
LUKE 2:11



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