

Today's Suggested Schedule—December 14, 2025

Today's Bible Story: Jesus is Born • Luke 2:1-7

Jesus is the best gift.

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).*

First Look Pinterest Page

Visit our Pinterest page to see craft samples and suggested supplies.

https://bit.ly/FL_ChristmasShapes

SERVICE DURATION (75-80 MINUTES)

9:15am/11:00am thru 10:35am/12:20pm

ORDER OF SERVICE

OPENING SMALL GROUP (30-35 minutes)

SOCIAL: Providing Time for Fun Interaction

Early Arriver /

Opening Activity

LARGE GROUP (10-15 minutes)

WORSHIP: Inviting People to Respond to God

STORY: Communicating God's Truth in Engaging Ways

- Introduce Monthly Theme Poster
- Review Monthly Bottom Line Poster
- Play video:
 - a. **CHRISTMAS SPECIAL SONGS – KIDS WILL SING ON DEC 21st IN THE ADULT SERVICES**
 - b. Teaching (Clubhouse - Video)
 - c. Review Monthly Memory Verse

OPENING ACTIVITY

Providing Time for Fun Interaction

1. Hunt for the Gift

Made to Move

What You Need:

- ☐ “Hunt for the Gift” Activity Page
- ☐ Cardstock
- ☐ Gift bows
- ☐ Painter’s tape

What You Do:

Before the Activity: Copy “Hunt for the Gift” on cardstock, one set per Small Group. Place the pictures around the room face down and secure with a piece of tape along the top edge. Stick a gift bow on each paper.

During the Activity: Encourage children to look around the room to find the gift. When they find one, invite everyone over to discover what’s inside. Celebrate each discovery! Reset and repeat as desired.

After the Activity: Introduce the Bible Story.

What You Say:

Before the Activity: “Hello friends! I have something exciting to tell you! We’re going on a gift hunt today! All around the room are gifts with pretty gift bows on top! (*Show children an example of the presents.*) When you find one, shout hooray and we’ll all come see what’s inside your gift.”

During the Activity: “Ready, set, go! (*Pause.*) Oh look! Our friend [child’s name] found a gift! Let’s go find out what’s inside! (*Pause.*) Okay [child’s name] lift up the gift and show us what’s inside. (*Pause.*) It’s [picture]! Super cool! Let’s go find some more gifts! (*Repeat as desired.*) Great job finding all the gifts! Each one of the gifts were super fun, but what do you think is the best gift ever? (*Pause for responses.*) Wow! Those are some amazing gifts!”

After the Activity: “You were such wonderful gift finders today! In our true story from the Bible, we’ll hear how God gave us the best gift ever! Let’s go hear it together!”

Inclusive Pro-Tips:

- Place presents within easy reach for all children.

Transition: Move to Worship and Story by walking like you are carrying a giant present!

Groups - Creating a Safe Place to Connect

AFTER VIDEO CONTENT

1. The Gift of Verse

What You Need:

- ☐ “The Gift of Verse” Activity Page
- ☐ Colored cardstock in a variety of colors
- ☐ Glue sticks

What You Do:

Before the Activity: Copy “The Gift of Verse” on colored cardstock in a variety of colors, one set per Small Group. Fold and glue the sides together for each paper. Scatter out of order in your area. This activity can be done sitting at a table or on the floor. Say the Memory Verse and do the motions together with the children.

During the Activity: Encourage children to find the five gifts and put them in numerical order. Flip one gift over at a time then the leader will read the words on the back. Once all five gifts have been flipped over, leader will read the entire verse. Say the verse and do the motions together. Reset and repeat as desired.

After the Activity: Connect the Memory Verse to the Bottom Line.

What You Say:

Before the Activity: “Friends, come join me over here and let’s say our Memory Verse and do the motions together. Everybody ready? Okay! Here we go! ‘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.*) Great job, everyone.”

During the Activity: “Friends, I need your help finding the five gifts I brought today. Let’s go look around! (*Pause.*) Hooray! Hooray! You found all five gifts! Look how pretty and colorful they are! (*Pause.*) Each present has a number on it. (*Point.*) Let’s put them in order, one to five. Do you see the gift with the number one on it? (*Pause.*) There it is! What about the gift with the number two? (*Continue with each gift and line up numerically.*) Great job! Thank you for helping me find all the gifts and put them in order. Let’s turn them over and see what’s inside. (*Flip gift number one over.*) Gift number one says ‘God loved the world’ hmm, let’s see what gift number two has inside. (*Flip gift number two over.*) It says, ‘so much.’ Let’s keep going! (*Continue flipping each gift and reading the words.*) Now that we’ve opened each of the gifts, let’s put the words together. (*Point to each gift as you say the words.*) ‘God loved the world so much that he gave his only Son,’ John 3:16. (*Repeat as desired.*) That was so fun opening all the gifts to find our Memory Verse together.”

After the Activity: “And do you know what the very best gift God gave us is? (*Pause for responses.*) Jesus! That’s right! Jesus is the best gift ever! God loves us so much that **[Bottom Line] God gave us Jesus.** And that is what we celebrate at Christmas! **How do we know God loves us? [Bottom Line] God gave us Jesus.**”

3. Manger Builders*

Live for God | Application Activity

Made to Think

*Uses Minimal Supplies

What You Need:

- ☐ Cardstock
- ☐ Popsicle sticks
- ☐ Play-Doh®

What You Do:

Set popsicle sticks and small portions of Play-Doh on the table. Pre-build an example manger to show the children.

During the Activity: Encourage children to build a stable using the popsicle sticks and Play-Doh as “glue” to hold their sticks together. Encourage children to think about what the manger may have looked like in the Bible Story. As they work, remind them that a manger is something animals eat out of; it wasn’t fancy, but a very special baby was born there, Jesus! Gather the children around their creations. Celebrate all the mangers each child built to remember where Jesus was born! Remind children that Jesus is the best gift ever, and he was born in a manger.

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

What You Say:

Before the Activity: “Today we learned that when Jesus was born, Mary wrapped Him in cloths and laid Him in a manger, a place where animals eat! Let’s build our own mangers using popsicle sticks and Play-Doh!”

During the Activity: “I love how you’re building your mangers! Who ate in the manger? (*Pause for responses.*) Yes! That’s right! A manger is a place where animals eat! Who slept in a manger? (*Pause for responses.*) Wow! That’s right! Jesus was born and slept in a manger. The place Jesus was born wasn’t fancy, but this is where God gave us something very special. A very special baby was born, and He was God’s Son, Jesus! What a special gift! Jesus is the best gift ever! Wow! Your mangers look wonderful! Are our mangers fancy? (*Pause for responses.*) You’re all right! They’re not fancy!”

After the Activity: “Jesus could have been born in a palace or a castle, but God chose a place with a manger because Jesus came for everyone! Jesus is God’s Son. **[Bottom Line] God gave us Jesus because God loves us so much! How do we know God loves us? [Bottom Line] God gave us Jesus!**”

4. Journal and Prayer

Pray to God | Prayer Activity

Made to Reflect

What You Need:

- ☐ “Memory Verse Card” from Week One in Bible
- ☐ Journal
- ☐ Fun-shaped pen

Note: You can find examples of hand motions in the “Memory Verse Hand Motions” PDF and video, included in the Prelude folder and on Pinterest.

What You Do:

Before the Activity: If you do not have the “Memory Verse Card” from Week One, copy “Memory Verse Card” from the Home folder on cardstock and cut one per Small Group. Place one card in your Bible at John 3:16. *Note: Keep this card in your Bible all month long.*

Encourage the children to pretend they are carrying a gift as you lead them to your Small Group spot. Sit down and gather the children around you.

During the Activity: Review the Bible Story and Memory Verse Hand Motions, then ask the children to help you make a list in the journal of gifts they want to give other people for Christmas.

After the Activity: Pray with children using the list you made in the journal.

What You Say:

Before the Activity: “It’s Small Group time! Today, we are going to pretend we are carrying a gift while we walk to our Small Group spot. Are you going to carry a small gift (*act like you are holding a small gift in one hand*) or a BIG gift? (*Act like you are holding a huge gift with both hands.*) Pick up your gift and get ready to follow me! (*Pretend you are carrying a gift as you lead the children to your Small Group spot.*)

Whew! We made it! Now we can sit down and talk about today’s Bible Story. One, two, three, sit down with me!”

During the Activity: (*Open the Bible and lay it in front of the children.*) “In our Bible Story today, God gave everyone in the world the best gift ever! (*Pause.*) Do you remember the gift God gave us? Yes!

[Bottom Line] God gave us Jesus! And Jesus is the best gift!

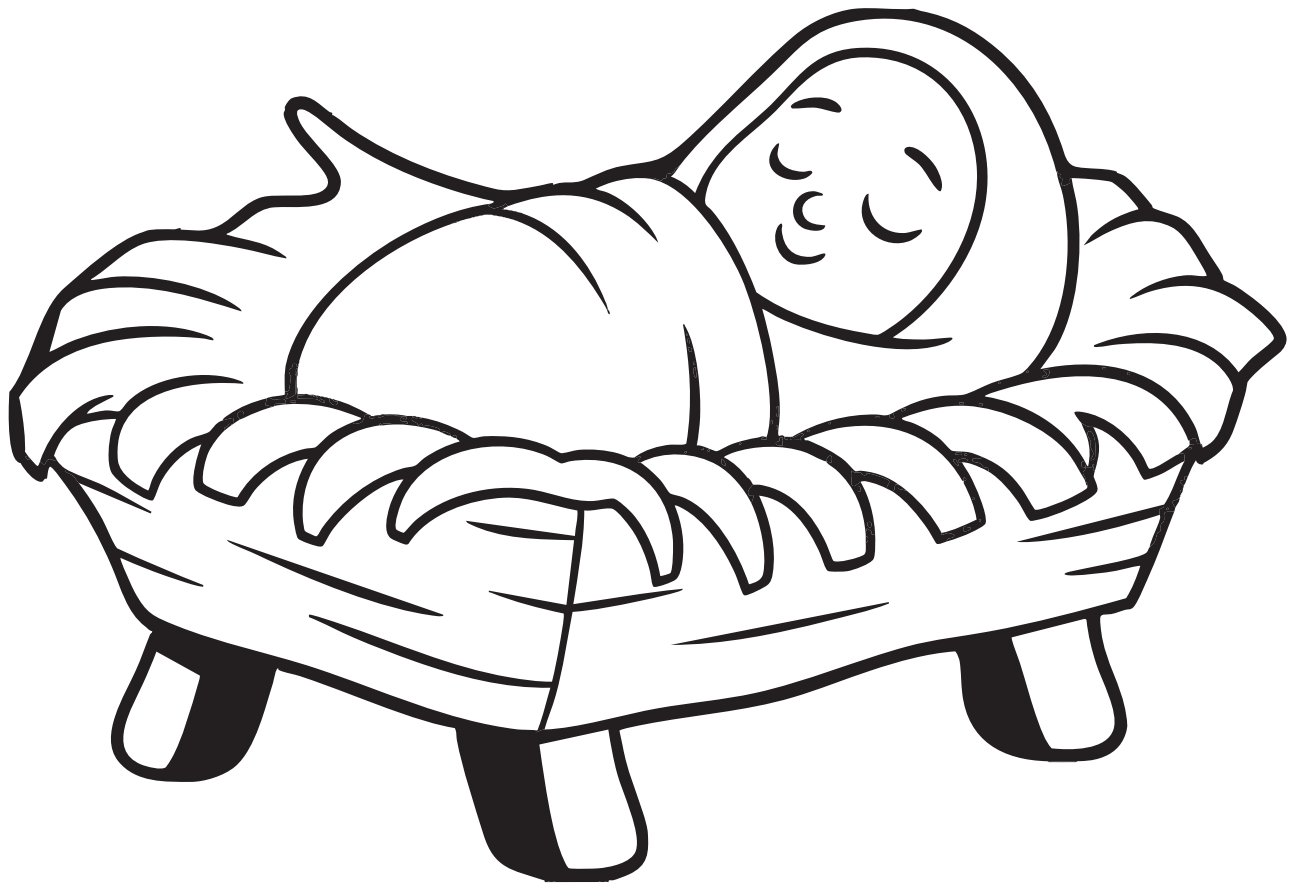
“Mary and Joseph traveled to Bethlehem. When they got there, baby Jesus was born! Mary wrapped baby Jesus and placed Him in a manger. A manger is where the animals ate their food. Wow! Just think about it! ‘God loved the world so much that he gave his only Son.’ John 3:16. That’s A LOT of love! And that’s how we know God loves us!

“The Bible verse we are learning talks about how we know God loves us. It says, ‘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.*) Did you hear that? God loves us so much **[Bottom Line] God gave us Jesus!** Let’s stand up and say that Bible verse together! Just say what I say and do what I do! ‘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.*)

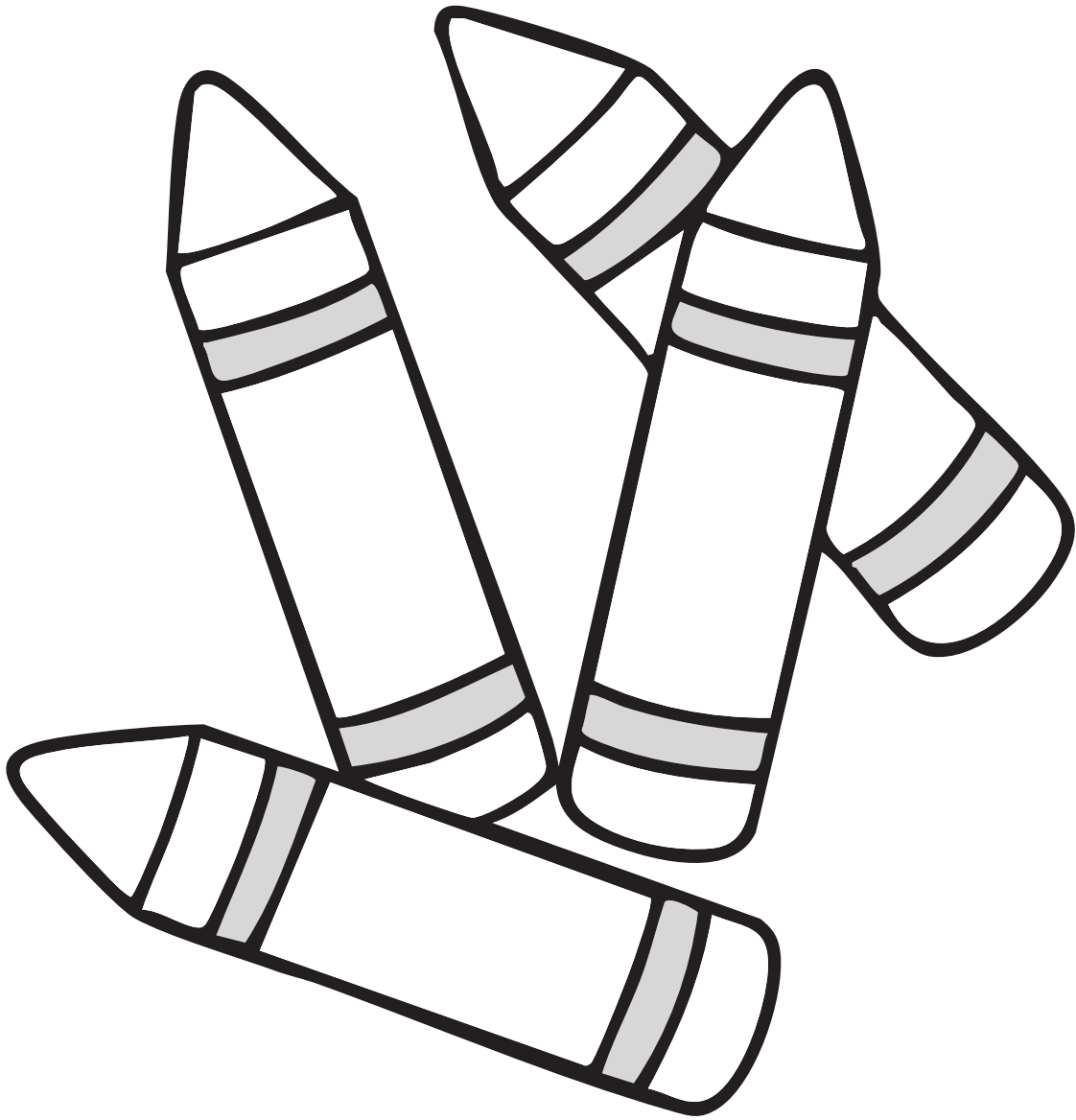
"Yay! (*Clap.*) And that is what we celebrate at Christmas! God loved us so much **[Bottom Line] God gave us Jesus!** Now let's sit down so we can write in our prayer journal and talk to God. (*Open journal.*) In our Bible Story, God gave us the best gift—His Son, JESUS! That is why we give gifts to each other at Christmas. We give to others the way God gave to us. Let's make a list in our journal of gifts we want to give other people for Christmas. Then we can use the list when we pray. When I say your name, tell me one gift you would like to give someone at Christmas, and I will write it in our journal." (*Remember to print, as you write in the journal, so the children can recognize their names and the letters.*)

After the Activity: "These are some wonderful gifts! (*Hold up journal.*) Let's pray and talk to God. Would anyone like to pray before I pray? (*Give each child who wants to pray the opportunity to do so.*) Dear God, thank You for giving us the best gift, JESUS! We know you love us because You gave us Your Son, Jesus. Please help us give to others the way You give to us, so people will know we love them too. [Child's name] wants to give a (what they listed). [Child's name] wants to give a (what they listed). [Child's name] wants... (continue saying this for each child) You are the best, God, and we love You very much. In Jesus' name. Amen."







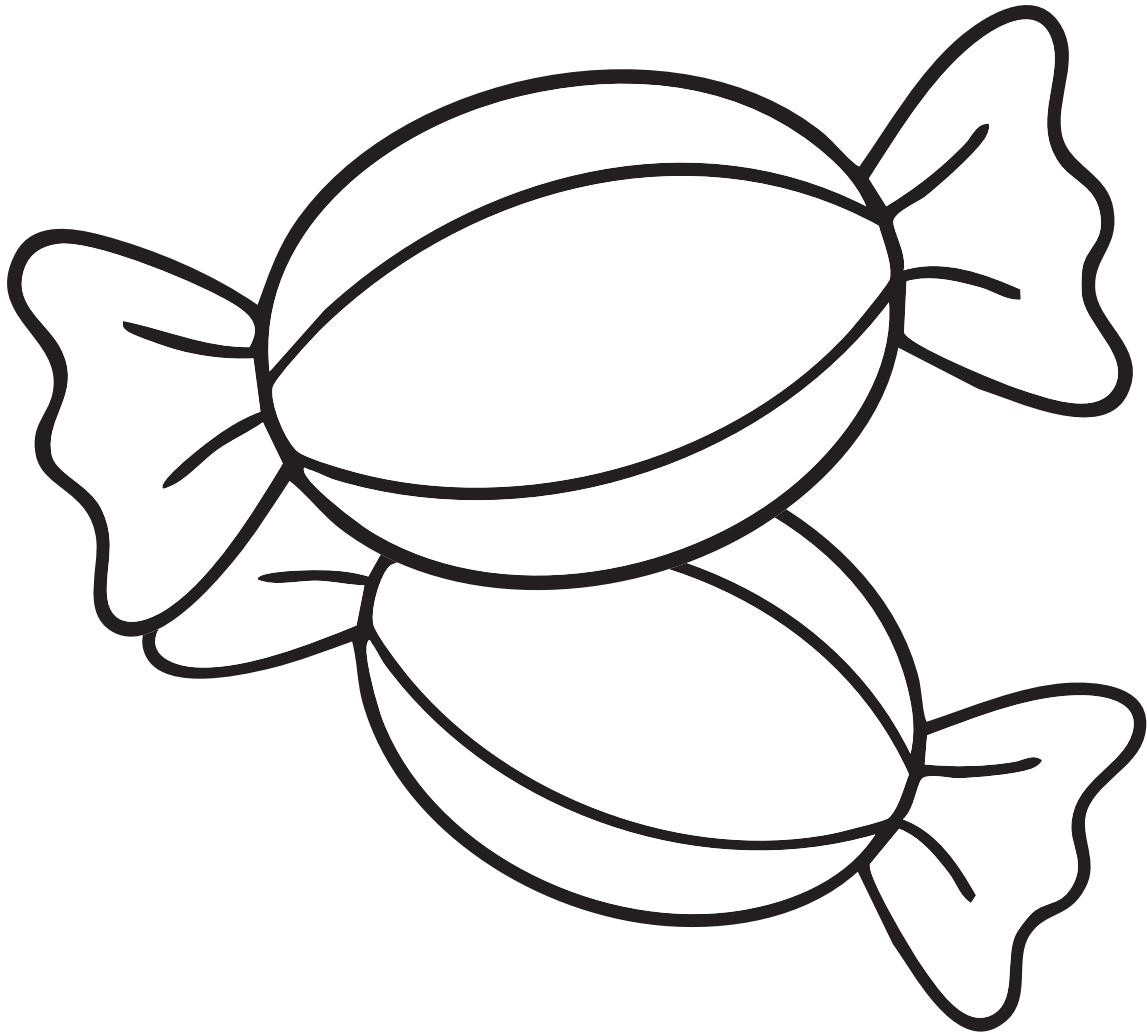


What to Do:

Copy on cardstock. One set per Small Group.
Page 4 of 6

"Hunt for the Gift" Activity Page

December 2025, Week 2, Small Group 3-5 year-olds
© 2025 Amazing Life Foundation, Inc. All rights reserved.

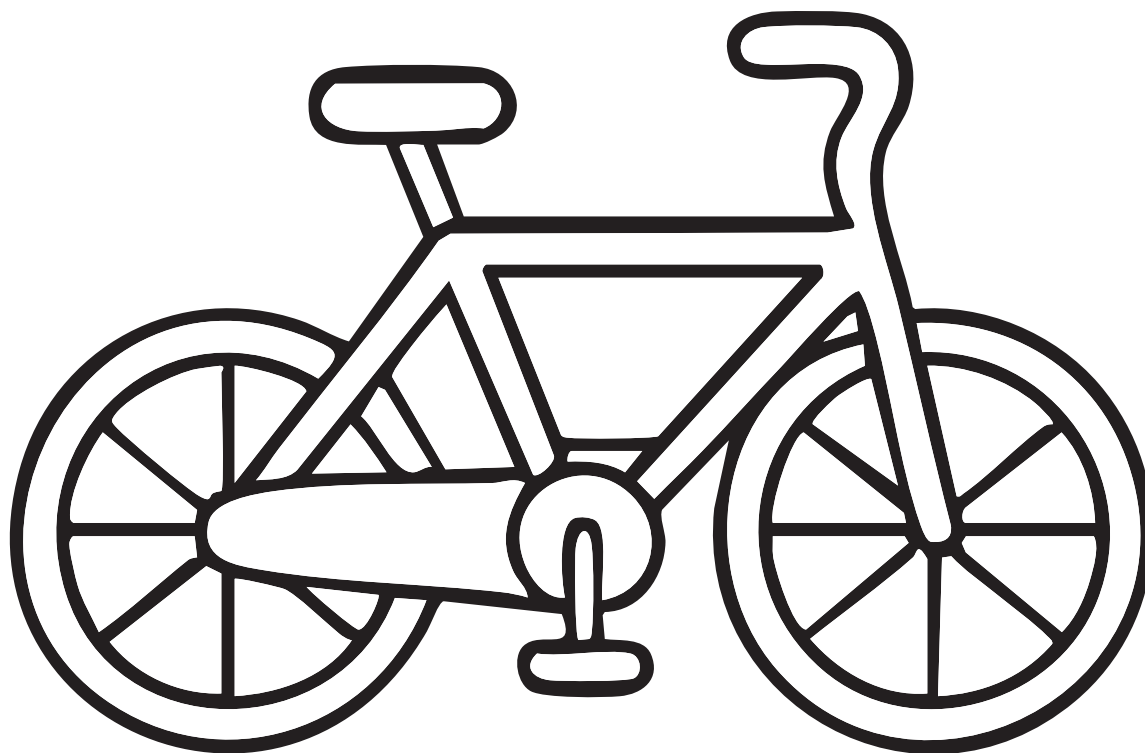


What to Do:

Copy on cardstock. One set per Small Group.
Page 5 of 6

"Hunt for the Gift" Activity Page

December 2025, Week 2, Small Group 3-5 year-olds
© 2025 Amazing Life Foundation, Inc. All rights reserved.



What to Do:

Copy on cardstock. One set per Small Group.
Page 6 of 6

"Hunt for the Gift" Activity Page

December 2025, Week 2, Small Group 3-5 year-olds
© 2025 Amazing Life Foundation, Inc. All rights reserved.

God loved the world



What to Do:

Copy on colored cardstock in a variety of colors.
One set per Small Group. Page 1 of 5

"The Gift of Verse" Activity Page

December 2025, Week 2, Small Group 3-5 year-olds
© 2025 Amazing Life Foundation, Inc. All rights reserved.

so much



What to Do:
Copy on colored cardstock in a variety of colors.
One set per Small Group. Page 2 of 5

"The Gift of Verse" Activity Page
December 2025, Week 2, Small Group 3-5 year-olds
© 2025 Amazing Life Foundation, Inc. All rights reserved.

that he gave



What to Do:

Copy on colored cardstock in a variety of colors.
One set per Small Group. Page 3 of 5

"The Gift of Verse" Activity Page

December 2025, Week 2, Small Group 3-5 year-olds
© 2025 Amazing Life Foundation, Inc. All rights reserved.

his only son.



What to Do:

Copy on colored cardstock in a variety of colors.
One set per Small Group. Page 4 of 5

"The Gift of Verse" Activity Page

December 2025, Week 2, Small Group 3-5 year-olds
© 2025 Amazing Life Foundation, Inc. All rights reserved.

John 3:16



What to Do:

Copy on colored cardstock in a variety of colors.
One set per Small Group. Page 5 of 5

"The Gift of Verse" Activity Page

December 2025, Week 2, Small Group 3-5 year-olds
© 2025 Amazing Life Foundation, Inc. All rights reserved.