

K1 and 2-4

Someone Like You

Bible Story: Birth Announcements: Elizabeth and Mary. John and Jesus.

Bottom Line: God can use anyone to meet others' needs.

Memory Verse: "God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son. Anyone who believes in him will not die but will have eternal life." *John 3:16 (NirV)*

Life App: Compassion—Caring enough to do something about someone else's need

Basic Truth: I can trust God no matter what.

PLUGINS

1. **Snake Game** J. R. (Yes again! They loved it)

What You Need: Hissss Game

What You Do: This is a board game. See instructions here:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=q9iadGiBUhw>

What You Say:

"Do you remember the story about the snake last week? What did God promise Adam and Eve? (That he would one day send a son who would crush the snake's head.) Today we're going to learn about how He was born!"

Cleanup: Put game in left closet with other games.

2. Starburst Starts – Edith AND Cesar

What You Need: “Starburst Story” Activity Page, 25 colorful drinking straws per kid, strong zip ties, scissors, painters tape

What You Do:

- Give each kid a zip tie and set the pile of straws in the center.
- Have the children lay 25 straws on the zip tie, 5 at a time.
- When the story is over, instruct them to fasten their zip ties around their pile of straws and pull as tightly as they can without any straws popping out.
- *Note: You may have to help younger kids.*
- Then let kids trim some of the straws with scissors so that there are different lengths.
- Encourage kids to try bending the straws in half below and above the ties, if they don't stick out already, to make their creation look more like a starburst.
- Have children write their name on a piece of painter's tape and tape it to their star.

What You Say:

“These are pretty cool decorations! Of all the things to make Christmas decorations out of, I don't think drinking straws would be my first guess. And if I was going to send a baby to rescue the world, I don't think I'd choose a young girl from a tiny town to be His mom! One of the things that the Christmas story reminds us of is that **[Bottom Line] God can use anyone to meet others' needs.** He used Mary, Joseph, Elizabeth, and Zechariah in our Bible story today. God had used others in the past like David and Gideon and Ruth and Esther. God kind of makes a habit of using unlikely people.

“That could even mean some of you! There is every possibility that God is preparing to use YOU to meet someone's needs this season. It's what Undercover Christmas is all about! So be ready and be on the lookout for people in need. Is there someone you already know who has a need you could meet? (*Allow for discussion.*) What are some ways you could be ready to meet others' needs?” (*Allow for discussion.*)

CLEANUP – Put straws and zip ties in zip lock bags on the cart.

NOTE: Put



3. Craft – Torie AND Elizabeth

[Hear from God | Memory Verse Activity]

Made to Move: an activity that increases the oxygen in the brain and taps into the energy in the body

What You Need: TBA (These are easy crafts already prepped in the attic. I'm not in the attic to see what they are, but you'll be fine. Promise. ☺ And no paint is involved.)

What You Do: The Crafts. That I'll have ready.

What You Say:

"You guys are making these ornaments to give to some of the people in our church who can't make it to services because they are sick. God is using YOU to help others!"

CLEANUP – ?

4. **New Verse - Robbie**

What You Need: Bible, Bible verse sheets

What You Do:

- Show children where to find the verse in the Bible. Allow them to read it and copy it down if they would like.

What You Say:

“Miss Joy has asked us to learn an extra verse on Wednesday night. You’ll still learn the verse that Sunday morning small groups are learning. Miss Joy has found a special charm for those of you who learn it. Let me show you where it is, and then you can take the sheet home and practice it. If you know it next week, you get a charm and a new verse!

The verse has the word Messiah in it. Do you know Who the Messiah is? Sometimes we use the word Savior for the Messiah. The Messiah is Jesus, who saves us from our sin.”

Luke 2:11 Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you. He is the Messiah, the Lord.

CLEANUP: Stack Bible verses on stage.

5. **Creche Creations – Amy**

What You Need: Nativity scenes

What You Do: Have the children organize the Christmas creches into sets and put them into zip lock bags. Have them wrap the babies in the clothes and put them in the little manger boxes.

What You Say: This coming Sunday is the first Sunday in Advent. There are four Advent Sundays before Christmas. These Nativity scenes and these dolls are for our preschool classes. We're going to be teaching them about the Jesus' birth. Can you help us get ready?

Cleanup: Place all items in the large tub.

6. **Reading Center** (Books will be provided.) Self directed.

7. **Christmas Puzzles**

GROUPS

K1

Groups: Creating a Safe Place to Connect

Create a safe place to connect and learn how the Bible story applies to real life experiences, through interactive activities and discussion questions.

1. Story Review

What You Need: Bible

What You Do: Pass out Bibles.

What You Say: Open your Bibles to the very first book in the Bible – Genesis. Last week’s story was from Genesis, the first book in the Bible. After Adam and Eve sinned, what did God promise them? (That he would one day send a Savior who would crush the snake’s head.) That person was Jesus. That was in the Old Testament. All the stories in the Old Testament happened BEFORE Jesus came to earth as a baby. The New Testament starts with the stories of how Jesus was born. What is the first book of the New Testament? Matthew, Mark, Luke and John are called “The Gospels”, and they are books about Jesus’ life on earth.

Now let’s find the New Testament. Can you find Matthew? What about Luke? Our story from today is in Luke Chapter 1. Who can tell me about it? What book is our Bible verse in? (John 3:16)

2. Mural Project (I will have a sample of the finished project.)

What You Need: Bibles, 11x14-inch pieces of poster board, glue sticks, maps, scissors

Note: This is the first week of a month-long memory verse activity. Kids will add a piece to their mural each week, so be sure to set these aside until they’re completed at the end of the month. While kids are working on the first part of this week’s mural, you may want to start a couple extra murals for kids who aren’t at church this week. If there are kids in the group who you know are missing, encourage older kids to start a mural for them specifically.

What You Do:

- Let kids look up John 3:16.
- Hand out the poster board and direct kids to put their names on the back.
- Kids can glue the strips to their boards to make the ground and stable and then add Mary, Joseph, and Baby Jesus. Tell them that next week we’ll add the manger, so leave room for it under Baby Jesus.

What You Say:

“God’s gift of Jesus is for the whole world. Our verse tells us **[Bottom Line] God did something about our greatest need** because God loved the whole world. The stable walls here are made of maps so that we don’t forget that God’s gift is for people who are near us and people who are far away. These walls don’t keep people out. They invite everyone to believe in what God has done for us.”

“This week, we saw how Elizabeth and Mary decided to participate in God’s plan. We also know that Joseph, her husband, made that same decision. They are just a few people in the Bible who show us that **[Bottom Line] God can use anyone to meet others’ needs**. That person just has to be willing to follow God and do what He says. Who in your life has made that decision and takes care of your needs? (*Allow for discussion.*) God uses our families, friends, teachers, neighbors, and churches to meet our needs.”

3. All I Want for Christmas (If Time Allows)

- Circle up and play a memory game.
 - Begin by saying, “All I want for Christmas is [object or experience].”
 - Then the kid next to you says, “All I want for Christmas is [your answer] AND [a wish of their own].”
 - Play passes around the circle, with the Christmas list becoming longer and longer.
 - If a kid can’t remember the wishes of those before them, that person is out of the game.
 - Play until only two kids remain.
- For younger kids, you can be a little flexible on the rules by giving kids a hint or two before they are out of the game.

4. Closing Prayer

- Ask the children to close their eyes and think about who they have been praying for this week.
- Encourage kids to think about the ways God could use them to meet someone’s needs this week. Remind them that sometimes God uses us by praying for others, and sometimes He uses us to help someone physically.
- Ask them to pray for the Lord to use them to meet someone’s need this week.
- Have them pray, “Lord, use us.”
- Close in prayer.

What You Say:

“Dear God, thank You for being willing to use anyone in Your plan—even us. Please help us to see the needs around us and be ready to act as we follow You. Amen.”