



WEEK

**ONE**

DECEMBER 2020

SMALL GROUP

**K-1**

## TODAY'S SUGGESTED SCHEDULE

### TODAY'S BIBLE STORY

#### High Hopes

Jesus Is Promised  
Isaiah 9:6

### TODAY'S BOTTOM LINE

We can have hope because  
God keeps His promises.

### 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

### MONTHLY LIFE APP

Christmas—Celebrating Jesus,  
God's greatest gift

### BASIC TRUTH

I can trust God no matter what.

### PRELUDE: Setting the tone for the experience

See the **Getting Ready** pages at the end of this document for a detailed description of what you'll need for today.

In the **Prelude** folder of your curriculum, you'll find a variety of other resources to help you prepare.

### SMALL GROUP

**15**  
MIN

#### SOCIAL: Providing time for fun interaction

Early Arriver  
Opening Activity

### LARGE GROUP

**35**  
MIN

#### STORY: Communicating God's truth in engaging ways WORSHIP: Inviting people to respond to God

Welcome/Opener  
Worship ("Jingle Bells" from *Jingle Jam* and "Joy to the World (Glory to the King)" from *Joy to the World (Glory to the King)* single)  
Bible Story  
Bottom Line  
Prayer  
Closer

### SMALL GROUP

**25**  
MIN

#### GROUPS: Creating a safe place to connect

Bible Story Review: A Son Is Given  
Application Activity: Promises Made, Promises Kept  
Memory Verse Activity: Roll It Out Verse  
Prayer Activity: Pray and Dismiss

### HOME: Prompting action beyond the experience

Parent Cue Card (print or email)  
GodTime devotional for kids  
Studio252.tv  
Parent Cue App



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PRELUDE

SOCIAL

STORY

WORSHIP

GROUPS

HOME

PROVIDING TIME FOR FUN INTERACTION  
15 MINUTES

### MADE TO PLAY

an activity that encourages learning through following guidelines and/or working as a group



*Before kids arrive, take a few moments to pray for them. Start by thanking God for being a God who keeps His promises. Think of a couple of promises you're especially grateful for and praise God for those specific promises. Especially at the end of such a difficult year, thank God for the ways you've seen Him work and felt His presence.*

### TODAY'S BIBLE STORY

#### High Hopes

Jesus Is Promised  
Isaiah 9:6

### 1. EARLY ARRIVER

**WHAT YOU NEED:** "Christmas Song Fill-In" Activity Pages, offering container, pen

### TODAY'S BOTTOM LINE

**We can have hope because God keeps His promises.**

#### WHAT YOU DO:

- Welcome kids by name as they arrive. Encourage kids who brought an offering to place it in the offering container.
- Call on kids to give you answers to fill in the blanks on the "Christmas Song Fill-In" Activity Pages. (Make sure not to reveal the lyrics or let anyone see the page before you finish filling in the blanks.)
- After you fill in the blanks for each song, place the page in the center of the circle and sing them together with your new, silly lyrics.
- Repeat for the rest of the songs as time allows.

### 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

### MONTHLY LIFE APP

Christmas—Celebrating Jesus,  
God's greatest gift

### BASIC TRUTH

I can trust God no matter what.



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PRELUDE

SOCIAL

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HOME

PROVIDING TIME FOR FUN INTERACTION  
15 MINUTES

### MADE TO EXPLORE

an activity that extends learning through hands-on experimentation and discovery



## 2. OPENING ACTIVITY

**WHAT YOU NEED:** Cornstarch, lotion, body wash or hair conditioner, large mixing bowl, small paper plates, and (optional) zip-top bags

*NOTE: If you choose not to make dough, you can offer balls of Play-Doh® instead. Keep in mind that some kids*

*have an allergy to the ingredients used and/or Play-Doh.*

### TODAY'S BIBLE STORY

#### High Hopes

Jesus Is Promised  
Isaiah 9:6

#### WHAT YOU DO:

- Mix the cornstarch and lotion (or body wash/conditioner) together in a large mixing bowl.
- If you think kids can handle it with self-control, let them take turns helping to mix.
- Once the mixture is firm and has the consistency of modeling dough, give each kid a small paper plate and ball of dough.
- Instruct the kids to shape the dough into something that represents what they love MOST about Christmas.
- If desired, allow the kids to take their dough home in a zip-top bag.

### TODAY'S BOTTOM LINE

**We can have hope because God keeps His promises.**

#### WHAT YOU SAY:

"Wow! There are lots and lots of things to love about Christmas. You might hope for some or ALL of these things this Christmas season. **[Transition] Today, we'll hear about something people had been hoping for—for hundreds of years! It's what Christmas is all about.**"

### 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

Lead your group to the Large Group area.

### MONTHLY LIFE APP

Christmas—Celebrating Jesus, God's greatest gift

### BASIC TRUTH

I can trust God no matter what.



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PRELUDE

SOCIAL

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HOME

CREATING A SAFE PLACE TO CONNECT 25 MINUTES

MADE TO IMAGINE

an activity that promotes empathy and facilitates concrete application through role-play and reenactment



\* 1. A SON IS GIVEN

[TALK ABOUT GOD | BIBLE STORY REVIEW]

WHAT YOU NEED: "Isaiah 9:6" Activity Page, Bibles marked at Isaiah 9:6, silver or gold pipe cleaners, small star cookie cutters, cardstock, scissors, a single hole punch, and yarn or string

TODAY'S BIBLE STORY

High Hopes

Jesus Is Promised
Isaiah 9:6

TODAY'S BOTTOM LINE

We can have hope because God keeps His promises.

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

MONTHLY LIFE APP

Christmas—Celebrating Jesus, God's greatest gift

BASIC TRUTH

I can trust God no matter what.

WHAT YOU DO:

- Pass out the Bibles to every two or three kids.
Encourage the kids to open the Bibles to Isaiah 9:6 and read it aloud together.
Discuss the following questions:
God promised to send someone to rescue His people (the Israelites) forever. Who was it? (Jesus)
Isaiah, a prophet who spoke for God, spoke these words hundreds of years before Jesus was born. Did Jesus come? (Yes! That's why we celebrate Jesus' birth at Christmas.)
How does Jesus' birth show that God keeps His promises? (Because Jesus WAS born, just as God promised. That's why we can have hope because God keeps His promises.)
Pass out a pipe cleaner to each kid.
Encourage them to use the cookie cutter as a guide to press the pipe cleaner along the outside edge to create a star shape.
Help each kid twist the two ends of the pipe cleaner together then remove the cookie cutter to reveal the star shape.
Give each child an "Isaiah 9:6" cut out.
Punch a hole in the top of the cut-out verse.
Run the yarn through the hole then attach it as the hanger for the star.
Have kids write their names and "2020" on the back of the verse card. Set aside ornaments for pick-up.

WHAT YOU SAY:

"God promised His people that He would send a Savior! Isaiah spoke these words on your ornaments hundreds of years before Jesus came! Jesus' birth is proof that God loves us. And it's why we can have hope because God keeps His promises. When you place this on your Christmas tree at home, remember that God is a promise maker AND a promise keeper. He always does what He says He will do, and that means we can trust God, always."

[Make it Personal] (Tell your few why this promise in Isaiah is important to you. Talk about the first time you remember reading this promise and understanding that it was made hundreds of years before it came true. How does knowing that God kept that promise in the past help you trust that God will keep His promises in the future, too?)



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CREATING A SAFE PLACE TO CONNECT  
25 MINUTES

## MADE TO CREATE

an activity that explores ideas through the process of drawing, building, designing, and problem-solving



## 2. PROMISES MADE, PROMISES KEPT [LIVE FOR GOD | APPLICATION ACTIVITY]

**WHAT YOU NEED:** Scraps of colored paper or colored index cards, markers, glue sticks, and a piece of butcher paper

### WHAT YOU DO:

- Pass out a paper scrap or an index card and marker to each kid.
- Encourage the kids to think of a promise someone made to them or to someone else and draw a picture to represent that promise on their paper.
- As kids finish, encourage them to glue their promise pictures to the butcher paper to create a collage.
- Kids may draw on more than one paper scrap or index card to fill up the butcher paper.
- Once you've covered most of the butcher paper, allow the kids to share the promises made to go along with what they've drawn. Discuss whether the promise made was a promise that was kept.
- Grab a marker and write the word "HOPE" in large block letters across the center of the butcher paper. *NOTE: If you think your few would be frustrated by covering what they've drawn, write the word "HOPE" at the top or to the side of their drawings.*

## TODAY'S BIBLE STORY

### High Hopes

Jesus Is Promised  
Isaiah 9:6

## TODAY'S BOTTOM LINE

**We can have hope because  
God keeps His promises.**

## 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

## MONTHLY LIFE APP

**Christmas—Celebrating Jesus,  
God's greatest gift**

## BASIC TRUTH

**I can trust God no matter what.**

### WHAT YOU SAY:

"Sometimes people make promises to us, or we make promises to others like those you drew, but we don't keep them. Maybe a friend or family member promised to (*point to and name a promise from the pictures on the butcher paper collage*), and they didn't follow through. But God isn't like us. God never breaks a promise. When God says He will do something, He does it. When God says something will happen, it will. The Bible is full of God's promises—promises that He already kept. He kept His promise to send a Savior, and He's STILL keeping promises like His promise to always love us and be with us. We can place all our HOPE and TRUST in God because He is completely trustworthy. **We can have hope because God keeps His promises.**"



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PRELUDE

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HOME

CREATING A SAFE PLACE TO CONNECT  
25 MINUTES

### MADE TO MOVE

an activity that increases the oxygen in the brain and taps into the energy in the body



### 3. ROLL IT OUT VERSE

[HEAR FROM GOD | MEMORY VERSE ACTIVITY]

WHAT YOU NEED: Bibles and a ball

WHAT YOU DO:

- Pass out a Bible to every two or three kids and help them look up Luke 2:11 using the navigation tips below.

### TODAY'S BIBLE STORY

#### High Hopes

Jesus Is Promised  
Isaiah 9:6

*Finding verses with kindergartners:* Guide kids to open the Bibles to the marked page. Point to "Luke" at the top of the page as you say, "Luke." Then, guide kids to find the big number 2 on the page. Explain that this is the chapter number. Finally, guide them to look under the big 2 for the little 11; this is the verse number. Tell them to leave their finger on the verse as you read the verse aloud. Then, lead everyone to say the verse together.

### TODAY'S BOTTOM LINE

**We can have hope because God keeps His promises.**

*Finding verses with 1st graders:* Guide them to open their Bibles to the front and find the table of contents. (Hold up a Bible opened to the table of contents to show the kids what the page looks like. When the kids find the table of contents, lead them to find Luke in the list under "New Testament.") You can help by telling them that Luke starts with the letters L-U. When the kids find Luke, lead them to look at the page number beside the word. Explain that the number tells them on what page they can find Luke. Help the kids find the page. When they find Luke, explain that the big numbers on the page are the chapter numbers. Help them find chapter 2. Explain that the small numbers are verse numbers. Help them find verse 11 in chapter 2.

### 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

- Read the verse aloud as the kids follow along.
- Then, repeat the very first part of the verse: *Today in the town of David.*
- Spend a moment talking about this part of the verse.
  - The town of David is Bethlehem. This was the same David who killed the giant Goliath and later became king of Israel.
- Direct the kids to sit in circle.
- Guide kids to pass the ball to the left from friend to friend as you repeat the words of the verse.
- Repeat the verse two or three more times, switching the direction of the ball: pass to the right, pass across the circle, pass to every other friend, etc.

### MONTHLY LIFE APP

**Christmas—Celebrating Jesus, God's greatest gift**

### BASIC TRUTH

**I can trust God no matter what.**

WHAT YOU SAY:

"All month long, we're celebrating Jesus, God's greatest gift to us. That's why Christmas is a such a BIG deal! God made a promise to send us a Savior, and He kept that promise! Our verse reminds us that Jesus, our Savior, has been born to us! We can trust God, no matter what, because God does what He says He will do. **We can have hope because God keeps His promises.**"



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CREATING A SAFE PLACE TO CONNECT  
25 MINUTES

**MADE TO REFLECT**

an activity that creates space  
for personal processing  
and application



**4. PRAY AND DISMISS**  
[PRAY TO GOD | PRAYER ACTIVITY]

**WHAT YOU NEED:** Star ornaments from "A Son Is Given"  
Activity

**WHAT YOU DO:**

- Ask the kids to hold their star ornaments and circle up.
- Go around the circle and pray for each kid, placing his/ her name in the blank below.

**TODAY'S BIBLE STORY**

**High Hopes**

Jesus Is Promised  
Isaiah 9:6

**WHAT YOU SAY:**

"God, thank You that (*name each kid around your circle*) can put their hope in You because You always keep Your promises. Thank You for promising to send a Savior to us and for keeping that promise by sending Your only Son, Jesus. Help us remember this week that **we can have hope because God keeps His promises.** In Jesus' name we pray, amen."

**TODAY'S BOTTOM LINE**

**We can have hope because  
God keeps His promises.**

As adults arrive to pick up, have the kids show off their star ornaments and share how **we can have hope because God keeps His promises.**

**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

**MONTHLY LIFE APP**

Christmas—Celebrating Jesus,  
God's greatest gift

**BASIC TRUTH**

I can trust God no matter what.



PRELUDE

SOCIAL

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HOME

## GETTING READY

HERE'S EVERYTHING YOU NEED TO KNOW TO GET READY FOR THIS WEEK

### SOCIAL: PROVIDING TIME FOR FUN INTERACTION (15 MINUTES)

Welcome kids and spend time engaging in conversation and catching up. Get ready to experience today's story.

**(Choose one or both of these activities.)**

*In the Prelude folder of your curriculum, you'll find a general summary of Social Distancing Recommendations. Please refer to this document so you can plan your Small Group experience with health and safety in mind.*

#### 1. EARLY ARRIVER

*Made to Play:* an activity that encourages learning through following guidelines and/or working as a group

**WHAT YOU NEED:**

- Print the "Christmas Song Fill-In" Activity Pages; one for each small group.
- Offering container
- Paper
- Pen

#### 2. OPENING ACTIVITY

*Made to Explore:* an activity that extends learning through hands-on experimentation and discovery

**WHAT YOU NEED:**

- Cornstarch; one cup for every three kids
- Unscented lotion, body wash, or hair conditioner; one cup for every three kids
- Large plastic mixing bowl
- Small paper plates; one for each kid
- (Optional) zip-top bags; one for each kid
- *NOTE: If you choose not to make dough in small group, you can offer balls of Play-Doh® instead. Keep in mind that some kids have an allergy to your ingredients and/or Play-Doh.*

### GROUPS: CREATING A SAFE PLACE TO CONNECT (25 MINUTES)

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

**(Choose as many of these activities as you like.)**

*\* If you don't have time to do all these activities, be sure to do activity #1.*

#### \* 1. A SON IS GIVEN

[TALK ABOUT GOD | BIBLE STORY REVIEW]

*Made to Imagine:* an activity that promotes empathy and facilitates concrete application through role-play and reenactment

**WHAT YOU NEED:**

- Print the "Isaiah 9:6" Activity Page on cardstock and cut apart; one verse card for each kid.
- Bibles marked at Isaiah 9:6; one for every three kids
- Gold or silver pipe cleaners; one for each kid
- Star cookie cutters about three inches; one for every four kids
- Scissors
- Single hole punch
- Yarn or string cut into eight-inch lengths; one for each kid

#### 2. PROMISES MADE, PROMISES KEPT

[LIVE FOR GOD | APPLICATION ACTIVITY]

*Made to Create:* an activity that explores ideas through the process of drawing, building, designing, and problem-solving

**WHAT YOU NEED:**

- Colored scraps of paper or colored index cards; two for each kid
- Markers
- Glue sticks
- Butcher paper; two-foot piece for each small group

#### 3. ROLL IT OUT VERSE

[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:**

- Bibles
- Ball





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## GETTING READY

HERE'S EVERYTHING YOU NEED TO KNOW TO GET READY FOR THIS WEEK

### 4. PRAY AND DISMISS

[PRAY TO GOD | PRAYER ACTIVITY]

*Made to Reflect:* an activity that creates space for personal processing and application

**WHAT YOU NEED:**

- Star ornaments from "A Son Is Given" Activity

**HOME: PROMPTING ACTION BEYOND THE EXPERIENCE**

- Print on cardstock or email this week's GodTime devotionals and Parent Cue cards.
- Tell parents about our additional family resources: **Studio252.tv** and the **Parent Cue app**.