



MONTHLY BIBLE STORY

Shepherds and Angels

LUKE 2:8-20

BIBLE WORDS

"I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people."

LUKE 2:10, ESV

BOTTOM LINE

Jesus gives you joy.

BASIC TRUTH

Jesus wants to be my friend forever.

The toddler curriculum provides one monthly Bible story because we understand that toddlers learn best through repetition. The toddler curriculum provides older toddlers with the story and craft element that some are ready to experience before they enter the twos. We hope that by sending home a simple toddler craft you are cueing families to begin having conversations at home with their children.

STORY TIME:

- Act It

CRAFT TIME:

- Joy Doorhanger
-



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STORY TIME

Gather children on a rug or in a specific area of the classroom to tell the story. Some children (especially the younger ones) may wander. That's okay. They're still listening and learning!

WHAT YOU NEED: Preschool Bible and Fisher Price Little People® Nativity

LEADER: "Hello, friends! I'm so glad to see you today. Come join me on the floor. Today's true story from the Bible (*hold up the Bible*) begins when some shepherds (*place the sheep in front of you and walk the shepherd to it*) were taking care of their sheep in a field one night.

"Then something amazing happened! An angel came (*hold the angel up above the shepherd*) and said, 'I bring you good news that will give great joy to ALL people! Jesus, God's Son, has been born!' (*Place the Nativity in front of you to the side.*) The shepherds were filled with joy and ran (*run the shepherd to Jesus*) to see Baby Jesus. When they saw Him, they wanted to share the joy with everyone! (*Dance the shepherd around.*) Jesus gave the shepherds joy. And Jesus can give you joy too. Because Jesus came to give the whole world joy. **Jesus gives you joy.**"



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CRAFT TIME

Gather small groups of children around you at a table for toddler craft time. Depending on the size of your group, you may lead the craft two or three times. Not every child may want to participate in craft time. That's okay. Feel free to send home the craft materials for them to complete with their mom or dad.

WHAT YOU NEED: "Joy Door Hanger" Activity Page, cardstock, dot markers, scissors, baby wipes, and a permanent marker

WHAT YOU DO:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: Copy "Joy Door Hanger" on cardstock and cut, one per child. Write each child's name on their paper.

DURING THE ACTIVITY: Encourage children to decorate their door hanger with dot markers. Clean hands as needed.

WHAT YOU SAY:

DURING THE ACTIVITY: "We're going to make a joy door hanger today. Use the markers to decorate your paper. (Pause.) Hooray! Jesus came to be everyone's friend forever! That means you, and you, and you, and me! Jesus came to give the whole world joy. Friends, **Jesus gives you joy.**"