



Christmas Story – Jesus is the Prince of Peace

Isaiah 9

God Statement: Jesus is the Good News

KEY VERSE: "She is going to have a son. You must give him the name Jesus. That's because he will save his people from their sins."
(Matthew 1:21, NIRV)

CHECK-IN

Classroom Teacher

(Until 15 minutes after the start of each service)

As kids check-in, please have them wash their hands or use hand sanitizer before entering your classroom. Then they can participate in the various activities and games in your classroom. 10 minutes after the start of your service time, ask the kids to clean up their activities and toys so you can begin the Explore Activity at 15 minutes after the start of service.

EXPLORE ACTIVITY

Classroom Teacher

(15 minutes)

The Explore Activity is a chance to get the kids thinking about the upcoming Bible story for the day. Encourage your kids to engage with the activity as they prepare for the lesson.

DISCUSS: Jesus is the Prince of Peace

In today's lesson, we are going to learn about how Jesus is the Prince of Peace!

Say: What does the word 'peace' mean? **Let kids respond.** Peace means freedom or tranquility. Peace can also mean 'calm'. Do you know what it means to feel peace? **Let a few kids respond.** Feeling peace, means we feel ok, calm, or content about things. No worrying or fighting. Just peace!

Did you know that God sent His son Jesus to bring peace? **Let kids respond.** God sent His son, Jesus to bring peace into a world full of sin. He gives us peace! When we feel scared, sad, lonely, or confused, we can pray and ask for Jesus to bring us peace. He is the Prince of Peace!

MAKE: Joy Pom-Pom Ornament

To get the kids thinking about the lesson, they can do this activity!

Supplies: one joy ornament, pom poms, glue, crayons/markers

Directions: Pass out one joy ornament per child. Have them color their ornaments. Allow children to take red and green pom poms and glue them in a line to fill in the words.

SAY: Today we get to learn about Jesus and how He is the Prince of Peace! Jesus brings joy and peace. It is so exciting to know that Jesus died for our sins and brought peace into a sinful world. Let's make a special ornament before we jump into our lesson today.



LARGE GROUP

(25 minutes)

Each week, Large Group will consist of an introduction, worship, the Bible lesson, worship response, and the blessing.

WELCOME & EXPECTATIONS

Host

Depending on your age group, either find a designated space in your classroom or join the other classes for Large Group in the specified location.

As children enter into Large Group time, welcome and greet the children, telling them you're excited to have them joining this evening/morning.

Expectations Slide

Once everyone has found their seat, the host will use the Large Group expectations slide to go over the rules. Encourage various children to take turns reading the rules.

**** After Expectations, transition the power point to the "Worship" slide.****

KEY VERSE

Host

Before you start worship, introduce/review the key Bible verse for the quarter. This is a great opportunity for you to talk about the importance of God's Word and encourage the kids to work on memorizing the verse each week.

****Use the Key Verse Motions Video on Plex (or sent in weekly email) to learn the motions prior to Large Group.****

***"She is going to have a son. You must give him the name Jesus. That's because He will save his people from their sins."
(Matthew 1:21, NIRV)***

**** After the Introduction, transition the power point to the Worship songs and invite the Worship Leader up front to lead the kids in worship.****

OPENING WORSHIP

Worship Leader

While the video is playing the opening worship songs, encourage the kids to sing and dance along. Don't forget to set the example by participating alongside them!

Kids may participate in the worship however they feel led. Encourage kids to find a way that helps them worship best but remind them that it's not time to goof off or talk to friends. If you have someone leading the worship up front, you can even invite a few kids to help.

TODAY'S WORSHIP SONGS:

- O Come Ye Faithful
- Joy to the World
- Closing: Promises

**** After Worship, transition the power point into the Bible Story video where the kids will hear about the lesson for the day.****

BIBLE STORY**Lesson Video**

Remind the group before starting the video to follow the expectations for Large Group.

THIS WEEK'S LESSON: Christmas Story – Jesus is the Prince of Peace

Encourage kids to listen and engage with the lesson as they watch the teaching video.

****After the video finishes, turn on soft worship music (with or without lyrics) to transition into Worship Response. This should be background music to help set the tone for a quiet reflection time with God.****

WORSHIP RESPONSE**Host**

Worship Response is an opportunity for the kids to apply what they just learned and to respond to what God is doing in their life. *Have the kids sit in a place where they can be still and reflect independently.* Then read through the Worship Response prompts below as you lead the kids through the time.

DO: WORSHIP & DRAWING – JESUS IS THE PRINCE OF PEACE

Supplies: worship song in PowerPoint (Peace Has Come), paper, markers/pens, wire/twine
WR stations

SAY: Jesus is the Prince of Peace! God had a plan from the very start of the world for Jesus to bring peace into our broken and sinful world. It was all part of God's rescue mission – to save His people, you and me!

That's why we celebrate Christmas and the birth of Jesus – because it was the start of God's big rescue plan! Jesus really is the Prince of Peace!

Let's take some time now to think about what that means to each of us.

DIRECTIONS: *Have leaders pass out a piece of paper and marker/pen to each kid.*

SAY: We're going to sit quietly and listen to a special song about Jesus! As you listen to the words in the song, think about Jesus as the Prince of Peace. Draw what comes to mind. Maybe it's Jesus as a baby or maybe it's Jesus sitting next to you in your room or

maybe it's Jesus in Heaven. However you see Jesus when you think about Him right now, draw it.

DIRECTIONS: Turn on worship song in PowerPoint (Peace Has Come). Then, remind kids this is an individual time to reflect and draw. When they finish, they can pin their drawing to the twine/wire boards around the room and finish listening to the song. After the song is over, wrap up the time.

SAY: God sent His Son, Jesus, because He loves you and you and you and you! Who else does God love? **Everyone!** God loves the whole world. And He sent Jesus as the Prince of Peace to save us! That is such good news. Let's pray and thank God for sending Jesus!

Close time in prayer.

******After Worship Response, transition the power point to the closing Worship videos and invite the Worship Leader to come back up.******

CLOSING WORSHIP

Worship Leader

Play the closing worship song included in the power point and encourage the kids to sing and praise along.

This closing song is intended to be a transition for the kids to finish processing and reflecting on the lesson before transitioning to the small group time.

******After Worship Response, transition the power point to the Offering slides.******

OFFERING

Host

Before closing large group, take a moment to explain that every week, we provide an opportunity for our Woodmen Kids to participate in tithing. We believe God is our provider, and it is our privilege to give back to God what He has so graciously given us. Then, remind kids that if anyone brought an offering, now is the time to come forward to donate.

Ask a child to come up and pray for the offering.

******After Offering, transition the power point to the "Announcement" slide. The host will discuss any current announcements.******

ANNOUNCEMENTS & SPECIAL MISSIONS FOCUS – Praying for One Another**Host**

Take this opportunity to cover any announcements and special missions focus for the kids, such as upcoming events or reminders, like bringing food donations for Feeding Families. Use the slides provided in the PowerPoint to display important announcements.

SAY: The Holiday season looks different for each and every one of us. It's not always full of joy and laughter, some of our friends might be walking through something hard. This week, think of one person you can pray for. Take a couple minutes each day to pray for their situation and that they would find hope and peace in Jesus. If **you** are going through something hard, ask your leader or another grownup to pray for your situation!

Invite a kid to come up and pray for the families who might be going through a more difficult holiday season .

******After Announcements, transition the power point to the "Blessing" slide. The host will lead the class in receiving the blessing for the day.******

BLESSING**Host**

Read the verse and blessing over the kids before closing Large Group. Encourage the kids to stand and open their hands to receive the blessing as a truth that they can take with them this week and hide in their hearts.

May you see Jesus in a new way this week, remembering that He is the Prince of Peace who came to rescue us because God loves us!

SMALL GROUP

Classroom Teachers

(10 minutes)

Younger Kids:

If you feel like the kids are still listening and participating well, jump into the questions below. If kids need a break first, that's ok! Have them do some jumps or dances to get out some energy before doing the questions.

1. **What did you learn about God from our story today?** (Jesus is the Prince of Peace.)

2. **Read/ Recap today's story: Isaiah 9:2-7**
 - What will the people who are living in darkness see?** (A great light.)

 - Who is the light that the book of Isaiah is referring to?** (Jesus.)

 - What will the child (Jesus) be called (V.6)?** (Wonderful Adviser and Mighty God. He will also be called Father Who Lives Forever and Prince Who Brings Peace.)

3. **As a group reread verses 6-7. Jesus is the prince of peace. God has sent Jesus to save us from our sins. To bring council, and peace.**
 - What does it mean that Jesus is the prince of peace?**

 - What does it mean to live in peace?**

 - How can we live a life of peace each and every day even when life seems tough?** Spend a couple of minutes discussing as a group.

Close small group in prayer. *Take a few minutes to share prayer requests as a group. This is a great time to write requests down on the prayer tags for leaders to take home!*

Older Kids:

Encourage the kids to utilize their personal Bibles or the classroom Bibles to read the Scripture as a group.

1. **What did you learn about God from our story today?** (Jesus is the Prince of Peace.)
2. **Read/ Recap today's story: Isaiah 9:2-7**
 - What will the people who are living in darkness see?** (A great light.)
 - Who is the light that the book of Isaiah is referring to?** (Jesus.)
 - What will the child (Jesus) be called (V.6)?** (Wonderful Adviser and Mighty God. He will also be called Father Who Lives Forever and Prince Who Brings Peace.)
3. **As a group reread verse 6. Who is the child that will be born to us? As a Christ follower, what does it mean that Jesus is born to us?** Spend a couple of minutes discussing as a group.
4. **As a group reread verses 6-7. Jesus is the prince of peace. God has sent Jesus to save us from our sins. To bring council, and peace.**
 - What does it mean that Jesus is the prince of peace?**
 - What does it mean to live in peace?**
 - How can we live a life of peace each and every day even when life seems tough?** Spend a couple of minutes discussing as a group.

Close small group in prayer. *Take a few minutes to share prayer requests as a group. This is a great time to write requests down on the prayer tags for leaders to take home!*

RESPOND ACTIVITY

Classroom Teacher

(10 minutes)

DISCUSS:

If you have extra time at the end of your lesson and small group time, the kids can participate in this activity.

PLAY: What's in the box-acting/guessing game

Supplies: Christmas Box

Directions: Have children get into pairs and sit on the floor. Have one child from each pair come up and look in the Christmas box. Have them stand in the front of the room. One by one have each child give one motion to act out what they saw in the box. No using words! After all of the children up front have done their motions/acting have the other children guess what is in the box.

SAY: Today we got to learn about Jesus and how He brought peace to the world. Let's play a game and see if we can guess what is in this special box!

CHECK-OUT

Classroom Teacher

(end of service)

As parents arrive for check-out, the kids can continue participating in the Respond Activities or the classroom games and toys.