c|Life Preschool

Unit 4 Lesson 3: I am precious because God sent Jesus Heartprint: I Am Precious to God Memory Verse: John 1:3 December 20, 2020

Link to our video large group: <u>https://youtu.be/oUQkBp2hAgk</u>

Song: Big Surprise https://youtu.be/apX-ttnsPm4

Activity: Warmer or Colder

Items Needed:

- Baby doll
- Blanket

Instructions: Gather the children together in a group and have them cover their eyes. Select an adult or teen helper to hide the baby doll wrapped in a blanket while the children aren't looking. Give the children a clue to find the baby doll. Once a clue has been given and the kids start looking for the baby, tell them warmer or colder. When they find the baby everyone must celebrate!

Example: You will find the baby with the train set. You will find the baby in with the kitchen food. You will find the baby in the chalk basket.

Connection Point: The shepherds were given a clue to find the baby. Do you remember what the clue was? You will find the baby wrapped in cloth laying in a manger. Let's celebrate that Jesus is alive!

Craft:

Items Needed:

- Angel color sheet
- Colors
- Glitter



Instructions: Gather the children around the craft table. Give each child a angel color sheet and crayons. Allow time for the children to color the picture. After they have colored the picture, paint glue around the angel and apply glitter.

Connection Point: The angel came and announced Jesus' birth to the shepherds. The angel told them they would find the baby wrapped in swaddling cloths and lying in a manger. They ran to find baby Jesus. God sent Jesus to save us from our sin because we are precious to God.

Bible Lesson: Jesus is born and the shepherds visit.

Memory Verse: "All things were made through him. Nothing was made without him." John 1:3 ICB

This week's story is taken from Luke 2:1-38

How do we celebrate a birth? We send flowers, balloons, cards and gifts. The family gathers at the hospital to celebrate and take pictures of the new baby! It is a big celebration!

What did the celebration look like when Jesus was born?

Let's open our Bibles to Luke 2. What do we say about the Bible? The Bible is God's Word. The Bible is TRUE! And the Bible is RIGHT!

Let's hear about what happened when Jesus was born.

Mary and Joseph had to travel to Bethlehem to take a census. Mary was pregnant with Jesus, but when they got to the town no one had a bedroom Mary and Joseph could stay the night in. Poor Mary and Joseph! They had to sleep with the stinky animals!

That night Jesus was born in a stable full of animals! That must have been hard for Mary and Joseph to be all alone when baby Jesus was born... no one was with them to help celebrate the new baby! But they were not alone! In a field close by an angel appeared to shepherds watching their sheep. These shepherd men did not know Mary and Joseph, but an angel of the Lord appeared to them. The glory of the Lord was shining all around the angel. The shepherds were scared, but the angel said, "Do not fear! I have good news for all people. The Savior has been born!" Then the angels told them how to find the baby. How do you think the angel told the men to find Mary and Joseph? The angel said you will find the baby wrapped in cloths laying in a manger! It was God's plan all along for Mary and Joseph to stay in that barn!

Well as soon as this big bright angel told the shepherds the good news and how to find the baby guess what happened? A large group of angels started to sing! Glory to God and peace on earth! Those shepherds must have been so amazed! We normally send baby announcements in the mail, but God sends an angel surrounded by His glory to announce the birth! Then He sends angel back-up singers to make it a real celebration!

The shepherds ran right away to see if they could find a baby wrapped up in cloth laying in a manger. Do you think they found him? Yes they did! They told Mary and Joseph all about the baby announcement sent by God.

Then when Mary and Joseph took Jesus to the temple as a new baby, two more people were there waiting for them. These two loved God and were so excited to meet the new baby. They knew that this was not just any baby born to two young parents, but this was the Savior sent by God to save us.

Jesus left His Father's side to be born and wrapped in cloth and laid in a manger. Angels and strangers celebrated His birth because they knew God was doing a new thing. Jesus was born so that you and I could know God and worship Him. God thinks you are SO precious that He sent His son to save you. Let's thank God for that!

Let's pray: God you know all things and you are above all things. Thank you for sending your son to live and die with us, so that we may live with you. Let us always celebrate His coming just as the angels did! In Jesus' name I pray. Amen.

Questions:

- 1. To what town did Mary and Joseph have to travel? (Bethlehem)
- 2. Where did they have to stay in Bethlehem? (Barn)
- 3. What was around Jesus when He was born? (animals/stinky animals)
- 4. Who appeared to the shepherds to announce the birth of Jesus?(Angel of the Lord)
- 5. Did the shepherds walk or run to see Baby Jesus? (Run!)
- 6. Who is precious to God? (I am!)



His birth was announced to the shepherds by the angel of the Lord, who told them where to find Him.

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