



MEMORY VERSE:

"Thanks be to God for His gift that is too wonderful for words.

2 Corinthians 9:15 (NCV)

Week 1 : November 17th

I Can Believe God

Bible Story References: Luke 1:1-25, 1:57-80

Zechariah's Unbelief

Week 2: November 24th

God Can Do Anything

Bible Story References: Luke 1:26-56

Mary's Good News

Week 3: December 1st

God Has a Plan

Bible Story References: Matthew 1:18-25

An Angel Appears to Joseph

Week 4: December 8th

I Can Celebrate Jesus

Bible Story References: Luke 1:26-38, 2:1-20, Matthew 1:18-25, 2:1-23

Jesus Is Born



MEMORY VERSE:

"Thanks be to God for His gift that is too wonderful for words.
2 Corinthians 9:15 (NCV)

SCHEDULE

Worship Time:

Ice breaker questions
Song
Memory Verse
Song
Intro to lesson / Review
Song
Bible Story Video
Bible Story Questions

Class Time:

Review Bible Story
Craft, Game, or Activity

F W C
SONLIGHT
KIDS



WEEK 1 : November 17th

Need to Know: I Can Believe God

Bible Story: Zechariah's Unbelief

Bible Reference: Luke 1:5-25, 1:57-80

MEMORY VERSE:

"Thanks be to God for His gift that is too wonderful for words.

2 Corinthians 9:15 (NCV)

ICE BREAKER / CHECK - IN

- DO**
- Welcome kids to church and tell them who you are.
 - **Elf Names**

SAY *Those elf names are so fun! I can't wait to celebrate all things Christmas with all of you over the next few weeks. Today, we'll celebrate that we can believe God.*

That's what we need to know today. So let me hear you say this after me:

I Can (thumbs to chest)

Believe God (point up)

BIBLE STORY QUESTIONS

- ASK**
- *When the angel gave the good news to Zechariah, did he believe? (No)*
 - *But did God do what He said He would? (Yes) Yes! He always does. God gave Zechariah and Elizabeth a baby, just like He said He would.*
 - *Even when it's hard for us to believe God, can we trust that He keeps His promises? (Yes) That's right! We can remember the story of Zechariah and know that we can believe God because God always does what He says He will do!*



WEEK 1 : November 17th

Need to Know: I Can Believe God

Bible Story: Zechariah's Unbelief

Bible Reference: Luke 1:5-25, 1:57-80

MEMORY VERSE:

"Thanks be to God for His gift that is too wonderful for words.

2 Corinthians 9:15 (NCV)

LET'S PRAY

PRAY

Dear God, thank You for sending Your Son, Jesus, to show us that You can do anything! Help us to believe that You have good plans for us and that You will always keep Your promises. We love You! Amen.

MEMORIZE IT

SAY & DO

God can do anything, and that's why He sent Jesus to save us from all the wrong things we do. That's the greatest gift! There's a verse we can remember that will help us say, "Thank You," to God for doing such a wonderful thing for us. Say it after me:

"Thanks be (wave hands in air)
to God (both hands point up)
for His gift (pretend to rock a baby)
that is too wonderful (wiggle fingers up high)
for words." (cup hands around mouth)
2 Corinthians 9:15 (make book with hands)

EXTRA TIME

Divide the group into two teams, and give each team a set of **Cookie Verse Cards**. Allow teams to race to put them in the correct order. Practice the verse one more time as a group after the game.

Place **coloring utensils** in the middle of the group, and give each child a **Memory Verse Coloring Sheet**.

CLASS TIME

CLASS

Read / Review Bible Story. (will be printed or you can bring your own Bible)

Do craft, game, or activity based on the lesson.

F W C
SONLIGHT
KIDS



Zechariah's Unbelief

Luke 1:5-25, 1:57-80

There's a story in the Bible about a man named Zechariah. Zechariah was a priest, and his job was to take care of the temple. He was married to a woman named Elizabeth. They really wanted a baby, but Elizabeth couldn't have one, and she and Zechariah were now very old.

One day while Zechariah was serving in the temple, an angel of the Lord appeared to him. This startled Zechariah, but the angel had really good news!

What do you think the angel told him? (Allow guesses) Great guesses! The angel said, "Zechariah, don't be afraid. God heard your prayer. Your wife, Elizabeth, will give birth to a son, and you will name him John. He will bring you joy. He will get people ready for their Savior to come!"



How do you think Zechariah felt when he heard this news? (Allow responses)

Zechariah couldn't believe what he was hearing! He asked the angel how he and Elizabeth could have a baby when they were so old.

But the angel said to Zechariah, "I am Gabriel. God sent me to talk to you and tell you this good news. Now, you will not be able to speak until the day these things happen because you didn't believe what I told you. But they really will happen!"



JOHN!

It wasn't long after the angel's visit that Elizabeth became pregnant. When it was time, Elizabeth gave birth to a baby boy! Everyone was so happy for her, and they wanted Elizabeth to name the baby Zechariah because that was his father's name. But Elizabeth said, "No, his name will be John!"

Everyone wondered why she would want that name, so they went to ask Zechariah what he thought about it. But Zechariah couldn't tell them. Do you remember why? (Because the angel told him he wouldn't be able to talk) That's right!

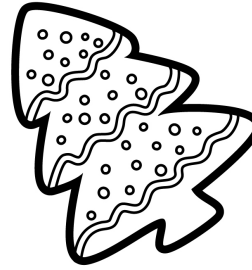
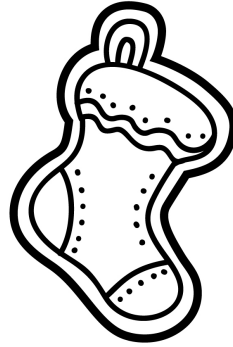
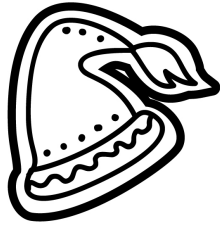
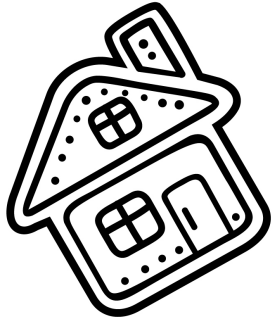
Zechariah still couldn't talk, so they brought him a tablet. On it, he wrote, "His name is John."



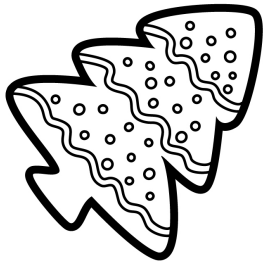
Immediately, Zechariah could talk again and began singing praises to God! Zechariah sang a song thanking God for promising to them a Savior, and he prayed for his new son, John, who would prepare a way for the Savior to come!

ELF NAME GUIDE

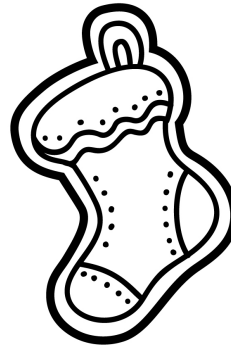
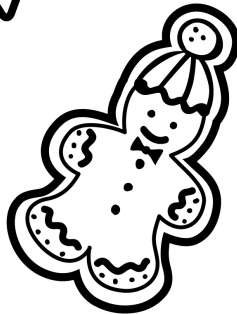
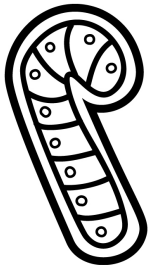
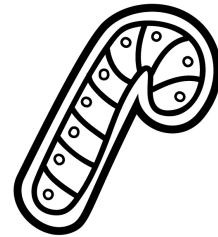
FIRST NAME (BASED ON THE FIRST LETTER OF A CHILD'S FIRST NAME)	LAST NAME (BASED ON THE FIRST LETTER OF A CHILD'S LAST NAME)
A - SPRINKLE B - CANDY C - ANGEL COOKIE D - BLITZEN E - COOKIE F - DANCER G - EGGNOG H - JOLLY I - TWINKLES J - MISTLETOE K - NOEL L - HOLLY M - CUPCAKE N - MERRY O - RED P - GREEN Q - SNOWFLAKE R - STAR S - ORNAMENT T - WINTER U - FRUIT CAKE V - MERRY W - GIFT X - SUGARPLUM Y - FREEZING Z - CHIMNEY	A - CANDY CANE B - GLITTER FEET C - FROSTY NOSE D - CHRISTMAS CARD E - CRANBERRY SAUCE F - ICICLE G - SNOWMAN H - NORTH POLE I - PIE J - PRANCER K - REINDEER FOOD L - SILLY SOCKS M - JOYFUL SONG N - JINGLES O - TURKEY DINNER P - SLEIGH BELLS Q - RUDOLPH R - CHRISTMAS TREE S - COLD T - FROZEN TOES U - HOT COCOA V - TINSEL W - PUDDING X - PEPPERMINT Y - SUGAR Z - GINGERBREAD






























"THANKS BE TO GOD FOR HIS GIFT
THAT IS TOO WONDERFUL
FOR WORDS."




















2 CORINTHIANS 9:15 (NCV)



Name _____

.” 2 Corinthians 9:15

	- T		- A		- D		- K		- R		- E		- U		- O		- F
	- H		- N		- I		- S		- G		- W		- L		- B		

Use the key to fill in the series memory verse!

Name _____



WEEK 2: November 24th

Need to Know: God can do Anything

Bible Story: Mary's Good News

Bible Reference: Luke 1:26-56

MEMORY VERSE:

"Thanks be to God for His gift that is too wonderful for words.

2 Corinthians 9:15 (NCV)

ICE BREAKER / CHECK - IN

DO

- Welcome kids to church and help check in.
- Show and shake the **mystery bag**. Allow each child to say his/her name aloud and guess what is in the bag.
- After everyone has been introduced and has guessed what's in the bag, take out the **candy cane** that is inside the bag.

SAY

At Christmas, we celebrate something only God could do, and today we need to know that God can do anything! Say this after me!

God Can (point up)

Do Anything (two thumbs up)

BIBLE STORY QUESTIONS

ASK What was the name of the baby that God was going to give to Mary? (Jesus)

What was so special about Jesus? (He is God's Son)

True or False: Mary believed that God could do anything? (True) That's right! The Bible says that Mary was blessed because she believed God could do anything!

(Show **candy cane** in the shape of a "J") This looks like a "J," and "J" is for "Jesus!"
Anytime you see a candy cane, you can remember that God can do anything!



WEEK 2: November 24th

Need to Know: God can do Anything

Bible Story: Mary's Good News

Bible Reference: Luke 1:26-56

MEMORY VERSE:

"Thanks be to God for His gift that is too wonderful for words.

2 Corinthians 9:15 (NCV)

LET'S PRAY

PRAY Dear God, thank You for sending Your Son, Jesus, to show us that You can do anything! Please help us to believe that every day and to ask You for the things that we need. We love You. Amen!

MEMORIZE IT

SAY & DO God can do anything, and that's why He sent Jesus to save us from all the wrong things we do. That's the greatest gift! There's a verse we can remember that will help us say, "Thank You," to God for doing such a wonderful thing for us. Say it after me:

"Thanks be (wave hands in air)
to God (both hands point up)
for His gift (pretend to rock a baby)
that is too wonderful (wiggle fingers up high)
for words." (cup hands around mouth)
2 Corinthians 9:15 (make book with hands)

EXTRA TIME Divide the group into two teams, and give each team a set of **Cookie Verse Cards**. Allow teams to race to put them in the correct order. Practice the verse one more time as a group after the game.

Place **coloring utensils** in the middle of the group, and give each child a **Memory Verse Coloring Sheet**.

CLASS TIME

CLASS Read / Review Bible Story. (will be printed or you can bring your own Bible)

Do craft, game, or activity based on the lesson.

F W C
SONLIGHT
KIDS



Mary's Good News

Luke 1:26-56

This is a true story we can read in the Bible about a young girl who was living in the town of Galilee. Her name was Mary, and she was engaged to get married to a man named Joseph.

One day, while Mary was alone, God sent an angel named Gabriel to give her a message. The angel said, "Greetings! The Lord is with you; you are very special to Him!"

But Mary was very confused about what the angel was saying. She wondered what it meant. Gabriel said to her, "Don't be afraid, Mary! God is very pleased with you."



Then the angel told her how she would become pregnant and give birth to a Son that she was to name Jesus.

Mary wondered how this could happen. But Gabriel explained it all to her. Gabriel said, “The Holy Spirit will come to you, and the power of the Most High God will cover you.” He even told her that her baby would be great and would be called the Son of God.

That wasn't all, though. There was even more good news!



Gabriel told Mary that her cousin, Elizabeth, was pregnant. Even though Elizabeth was very old, she was also going to have a son, because God can do anything! Mary trusted God and said, "I am the servant of the Lord. Let this happen to me as you say!"

When the angel left, Mary got up and went quickly to a town close by to see Elizabeth. When Elizabeth heard Mary was there, she ran to meet her and said, "Mary, God has blessed you more than any other woman, and He has blessed the baby you are going to give birth to. When I heard your voice, the baby inside of me jumped for joy! You are blessed because you believed that what the Lord said to you would really happen!"

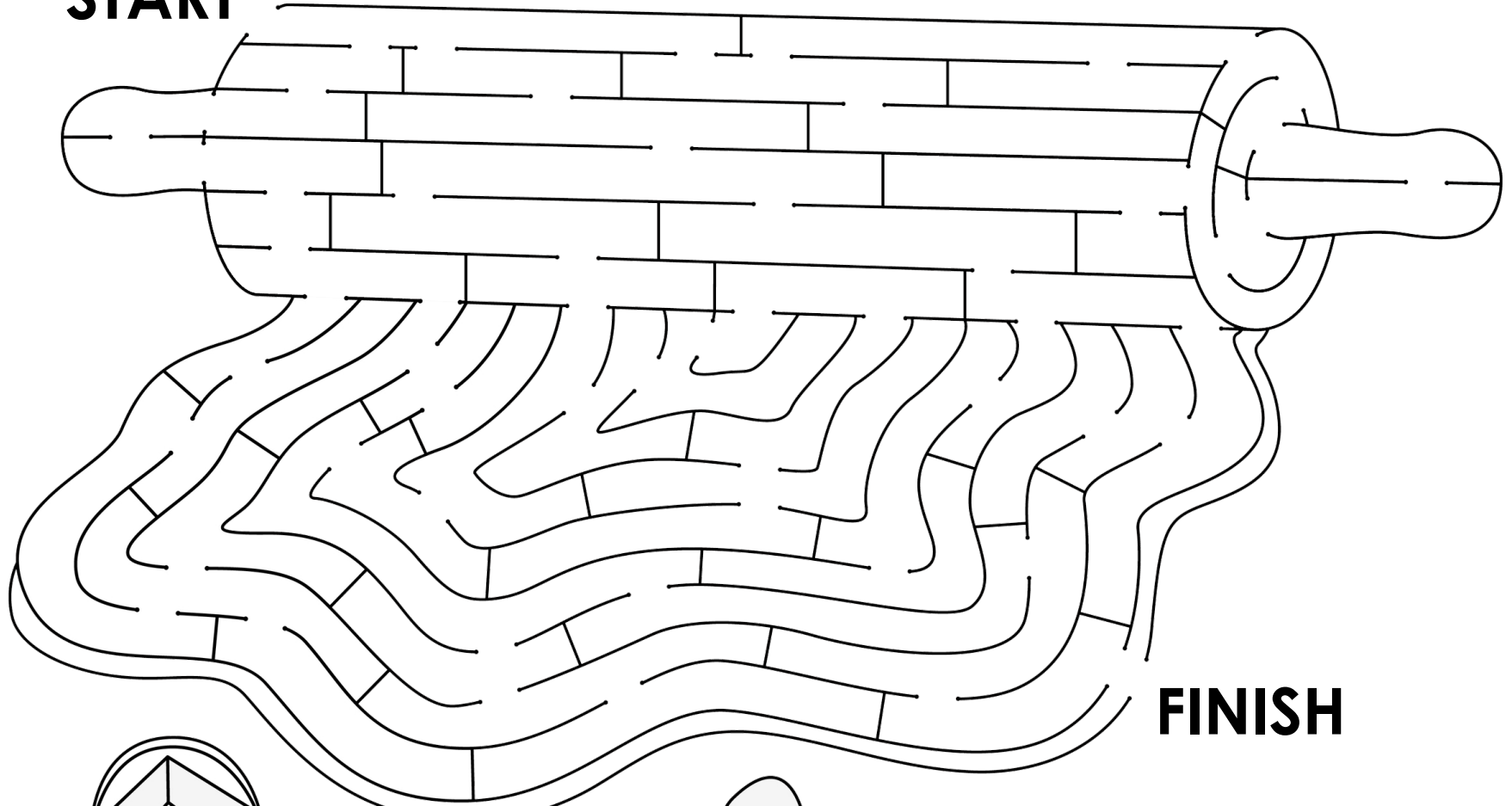


Need to Know: God Can Do Anything

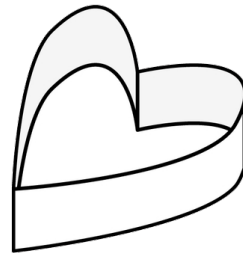
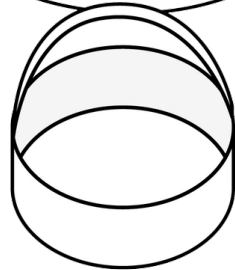
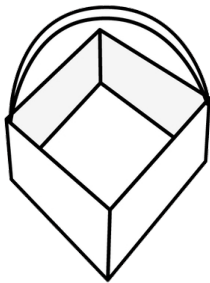
Bible Story: Mary's Good News (Luke 1:26-56)

Memory Verse: "Thanks be to God for His gift that is too wonderful for words." 2 Corinthians 9:15 (NCV)

START



FINISH



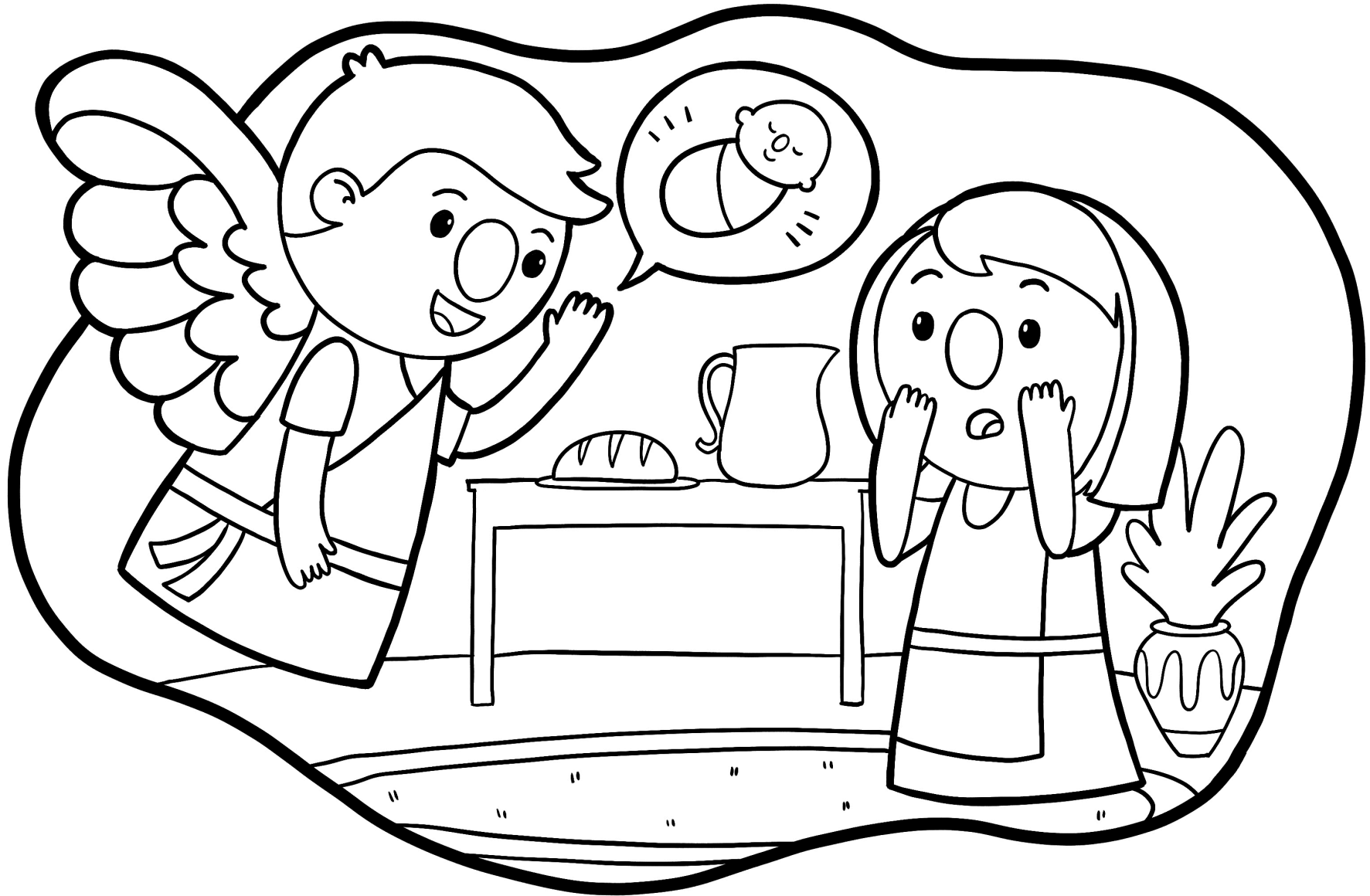
Name _____



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Name _____



WEEK 3: December 1st

Need to Know: God has a plan

Bible Story: An Angel Appears to Joseph

Bible Reference: Matthew 1:18-25

MEMORY VERSE:

"Thanks be to God for His gift that is too wonderful for words.

2 Corinthians 9:15 (NCV)

ICE BREAKER / CHECK - IN

DO

- Welcome kids to church and help check in.

Pass the gift box around the group, allowing kids to share their name and answer this question: What's one gift you would like for Christmas this year?

SAY *Those gifts sound fun! The reason why we celebrate Christmas is because God sent us the most amazing gift, Jesus! God had a plan all along to send Jesus to bring joy, love, and peace to the whole world! That's what we need to know today. Say this with me:*

God Has (point up)

A Plan (palms up in front of body)

BIBLE STORY QUESTIONS

ASK

How did Joseph feel when he first found out that Mary was going to have a baby? (Not happy, worried, upset)

Did Joseph feel upset at this news because he had a cold or because this wasn't what he had planned? (This wasn't what he had planned)

Who did God send to tell Joseph that God had a better plan? (An angel) Yes! God sent an angel to tell Joseph about His special plan for this baby to change the world!



WEEK 3: December 1st

Need to Know: God has a plan

Bible Story: An Angel Appears to Joseph

Bible Reference: Matthew 1:18-25

MEMORY VERSE:

"Thanks be to God for His gift that is too wonderful for words.

2 Corinthians 9:15 (NCV)

LET'S PRAY

PRAY Dear God, thank You for Your perfect plan of sending Jesus to Earth for us! Please help us to always remember that You have a plan for our lives and that Your plan is so good! We love You! Amen!

MEMORIZE IT

SAY & DO God can do anything, and that's why He sent Jesus to save us from all the wrong things we do. That's the greatest gift! There's a verse we can remember that will help us say, "Thank You," to God for doing such a wonderful thing for us. Say it after me:

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CLASS TIME

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Do craft, game, or activity based on the lesson.

F W C
SONLIGHT
KIDS

One night, while Joseph was sleeping, an angel from the Lord came to him in a dream. The angel said, “Joseph, son of David, don’t be afraid to accept Mary as your wife. The baby inside her is from the Holy Spirit. She will give birth to a Son. You will name Him Jesus. Give Him that name because He will save His people from their sins.”

God had been planning for all of this to happen since the beginning of time! If we look back in the Bible, many years before Mary and Joseph were alive, we can read about how God told His people that one day, a special woman would be pregnant and give birth to God’s Son. And this was happening just as God had planned.



An Angel Appears to Joseph

Matthew 1:18-25

God has a plan for our lives, and we can trust Him even when we don't understand all that He is doing. There's a story in the Bible where we see this is true.

There once was a young woman named Mary who learned from an angel that she was going to have a baby. This news didn't make her fiancé (pronounced: fee-on-say), Joseph, very happy because they weren't married yet.

The angel had told Mary that this was part of God's plan, but Joseph had a hard time believing all of this was going to turn out for good until something amazing happened!





When Joseph woke up, he did what the Lord's angel told him to do. He now believed that this was God's plan, so he married Mary. God had a plan for Joseph and Mary, and Joseph trusted God's plan!

Even though you may not be sure about what God is doing through some of the crazy things happening in your life, you can trust Him. God did have a plan for Joseph and Mary, and God has a plan for your life, too!



Need to Know:

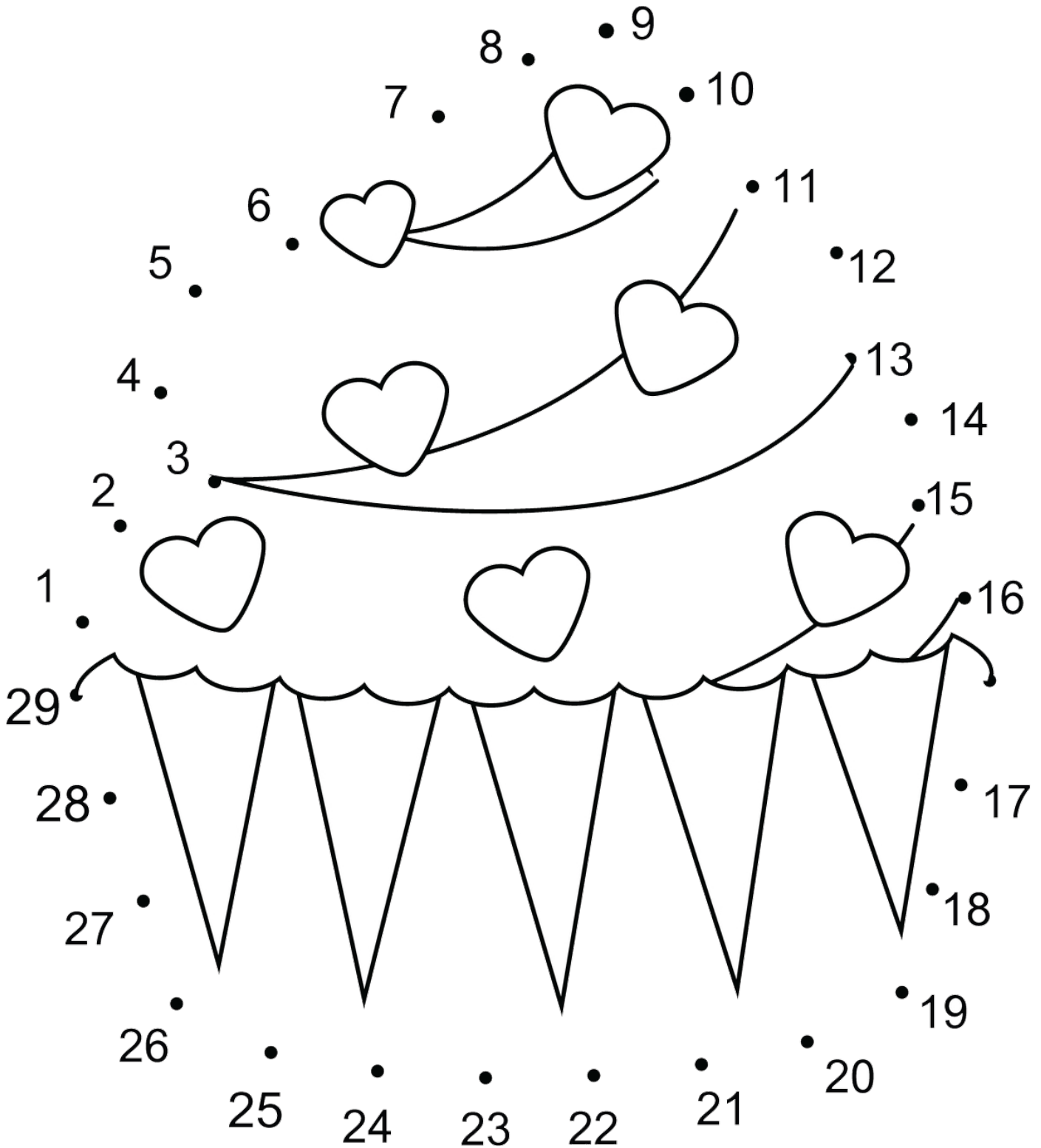
God Has a Plan

Bible Story:

An Angel Appears to Joseph (Matthew 1:18-25)

Memory Verse:

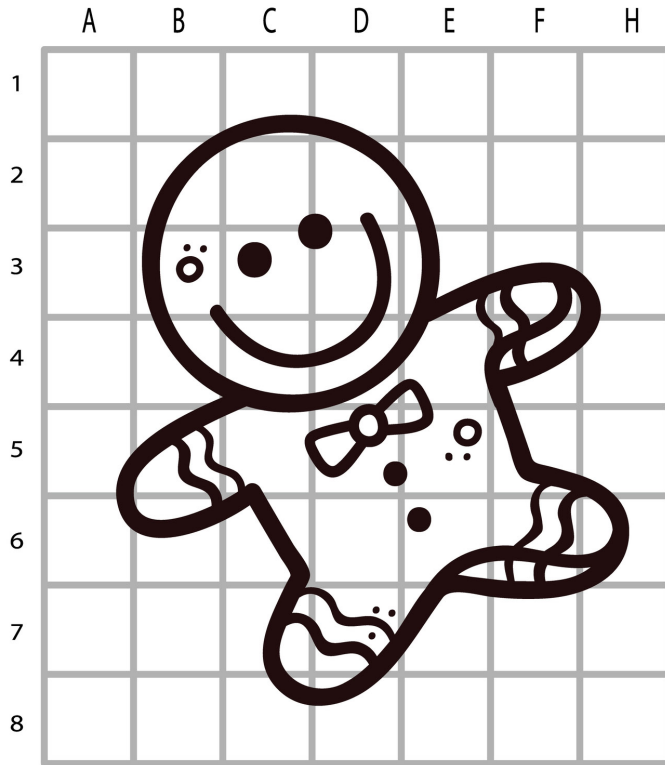
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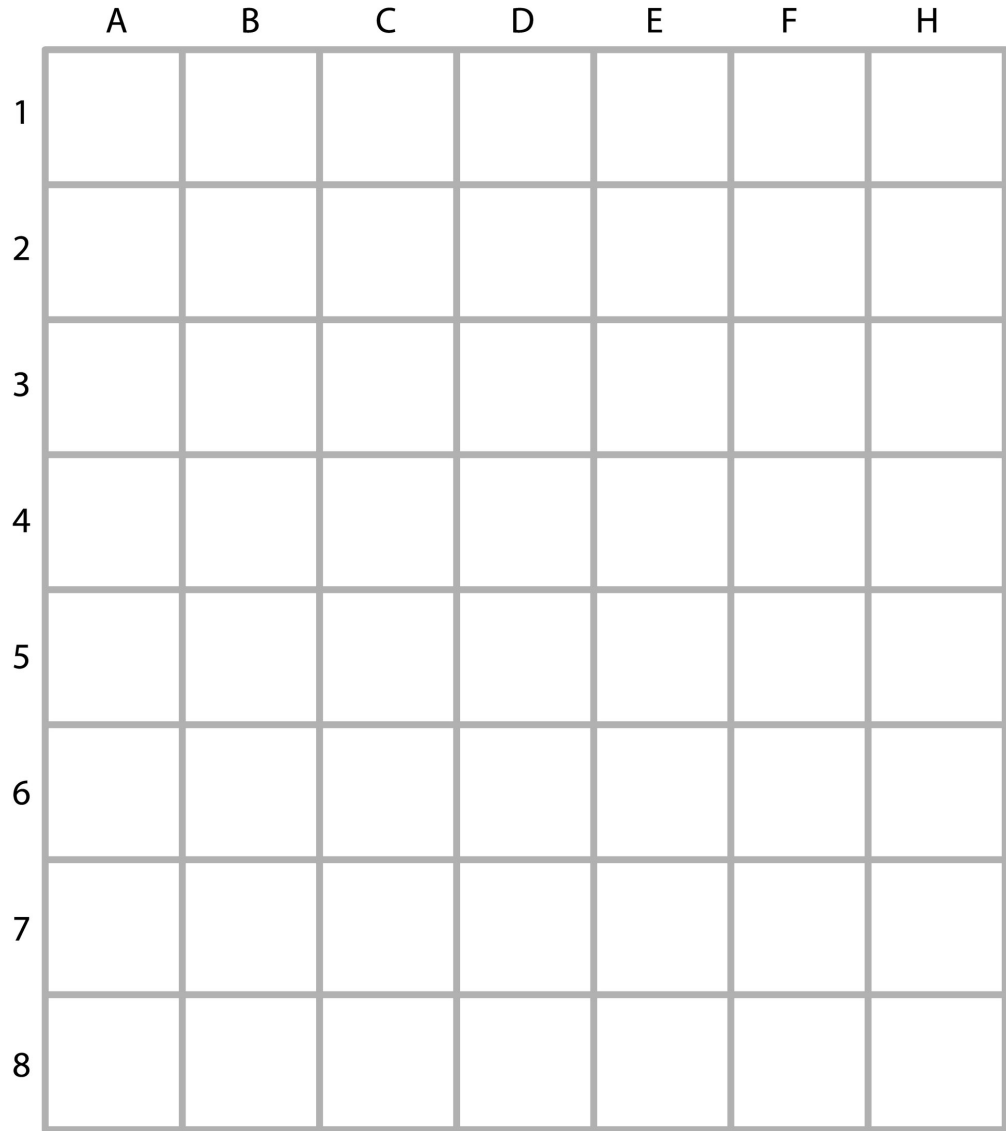
Name _____



Need to Know: God Has a Plan
Bible Story: An Angel Appears to Joseph (Matthew 1:18-25)
Memory Verse: "Thanks be to God for His gift that is too wonderful for words." 2 Corinthians 9:15 (NCV)



USE THE GRID TO
DRAW YOUR OWN
GINGERBREAD MAN



Name _____



WEEK 4: December 8th

Need to Know: I Can Celebrate Jesus

Bible Story: Jesus is Born

Bible Reference: Luke 1:26-38, 2:1-20,
Matthew 1:18-25, 2:1-23

MEMORY VERSE:

"Thanks be to God for His gift that is too wonderful for words.

2 Corinthians 9:15 (NCV)

ICE BREAKER / CHECK - IN

DO

- Welcome kids to church and help check in.
- Show and shake the **mystery bag**, allowing the group to guess what's inside.
- After the group has guessed, take out the **Christmas tree** and show it to the group.

SAY *At Christmas, we celebrate God's special gift to us — Jesus! Christmas trees point up (show **tree** and point up) to remind us that we can celebrate Jesus! Say this after me!*

I Can (point to self)

Celebrate (fist pump, both hands)

Jesus (point up)

BIBLE STORY QUESTIONS

ASK

- *What did the shepherds do when they heard the news about Jesus' birth? (They went to Bethlehem to see Him, told everyone what happened)*
- *Can we only celebrate Jesus at Christmas? (No) No way! Christmas is when we celebrate Jesus' birthday, but we can celebrate Jesus every day!*
- Show kids a **Flapper**, talk through it, and explain that we can celebrate how Jesus fixes our friendship with God. Then give each child a Flapper to take home.



WEEK 4: December 8th

Need to Know: I Can Celebrate Jesus

Bible Story: Jesus is Born

Bible Reference: Luke 1:26-38, 2:1-20,
Matthew 1:18-25, 2:1-23

MEMORY VERSE:

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2 Corinthians 9:15 (NCV)

LET'S PRAY

PRAY Dear God, thank You for sending Your Son, Jesus, to Earth for us! Help us to always remember Your special gift of Jesus! We love You! Amen.

MEMORIZE IT

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Place **coloring utensils** in the middle of the group, and give each child a **Memory Verse Coloring Sheet**.

CLASS TIME

CLASS Read / Review Bible Story. (will be printed or you can bring your own Bible)

Do craft, game, or activity based on the lesson.

F W C
SONLIGHT
KIDS

BIBLE STORY SHEET

Read the Bible Story to the group, pausing for kids to say phrases or show pictures of each underlined character.

Characters and lines:

- Angel - Do not be afraid!
- Mary - That is me!
- Joseph - That is me!
- Baby - Waaa!
- Donkey - Heehaw!
- Sheep - Baaa!
- Cow - Moo!
- Shepherds - What's that sound?
- Wise Men - Follow the star!
- King Herod - Muah-ha-ha! (evil laugh)

There once lived a girl named MARY and a boy named JOSEPH. They were engaged to be married when an ANGEL came from heaven and told MARY that she was going to have a BABY named Jesus who would be God's Son!

When it was almost time for MARY to give birth to Jesus, KING HEROD wanted to have a list of all the people in his empire to make sure they paid their taxes. He ordered everyone to return to the town where their families were from and enter their names in a census. MARY and JOSEPH had to travel a long way from Nazareth to Bethlehem because that is where JOSEPH was from. Most people walked, but they took a DONKEY for MARY to ride on.

When they reached Bethlehem, every house was full, and every bed was taken in all of the inns. The only place they could find to rest was in a stable with SHEEP, COWS, and other animals. Soon the time came, and MARY gave birth to BABY Jesus, God's Son! She wrapped him in cloths and laid him in the manger where the SHEEP and COWS ate their hay.

That night, there were SHEPHERDS looking after their SHEEP. Suddenly, an ANGEL appeared! The SHEPHERDS were very scared, but the ANGEL said, "I have good news for you and everyone. Today in Bethlehem a Savior has been born for you. You will find the BABY lying in a manger."

Then more ANGELS appeared singing praises to God. They sang, "Glory to God in the highest and peace on earth to everyone." When the ANGELS left, the SHEPHERDS said, "Let's go to Bethlehem to see this BABY." They hurried straight there and found Jesus lying in the manger, just like they had been told. They told everyone what the ANGEL had said, and everyone who heard the story was amazed. The SHEPHERDS returned to their SHEEP, praising God for sending His Son!

When Jesus was born, a bright star appeared in the sky. Some WISE MEN in faraway countries saw the star and followed it. Along the way they began to ask people, "Where is the child who is born to be the king of the Jews?" KING HEROD heard this, and it made him very angry to think that someone might be trying to take his place as king. He sent for the WISE MEN to come to him and told them to follow the star until they found the BABY king. KING HEROD said, "When you have found him, let me know where he is so I can go and worship him, too!" But KING HEROD had an evil plan in mind to kill the BABY king.

The WISE MEN followed the star towards Bethlehem. It seemed to shine directly down on the place where Jesus was. The WISE MEN entered the house where MARY and JOSEPH lived, and when they saw Jesus, they worshipped him. Then they gave Him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. As they left, they were warned in a dream by God not to go back to KING HEROD. So they returned home a different way.

Then an ANGEL appeared to JOSEPH in a dream and said, "Get up, take Jesus and MARY and escape to Egypt. Stay there until I tell you, for KING HEROD is going to search for Jesus to kill him." So JOSEPH got up and took Jesus and MARY to Egypt where they stayed until KING HEROD died. As soon as KING HEROD was no longer living, the ANGEL came to JOSEPH again and said, "Get up, take MARY and Jesus and go back to Israel, for the people who were trying to kill Jesus are dead." So they went back to their home, and Jesus grew up in their old town of Nazareth.



King Herod

Muah-ha-ha!
(evil laugh)

Wk 4 - YES & OES - Character Cards



Angel

Do not be afraid!

Wk 4 - YES & OES - Character Cards



Mary

That is me!

Wk 4 - YES & OES - Character Cards



Joseph

That is me!

Wk 4 - YES & OES - Character Cards



Baby

Waaaa!

Wk 4 - YES & OES - Character Cards



Donkey

Hee-haw!

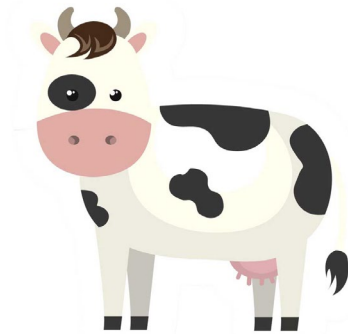
Wk 4 - YES & OES - Character Cards



Sheep

Baaaaa!

Wk 4 - YES & OES - Character Cards



Cow

Moo!

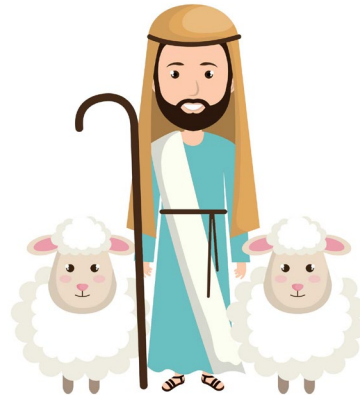
Wk 4 - YES & OES - Character Cards



Shepherd

What's that sound?

Wk 4 - YES & OES - Character Cards



Shepherd

What's that sound?

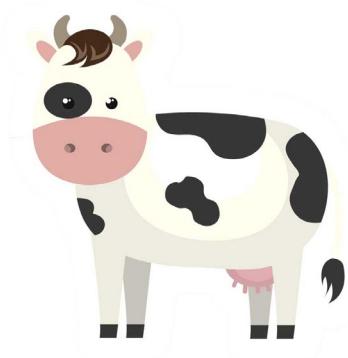
Wk 4 - YES & OES - Character Cards



Sheep

Baaaaa!

Wk 4 - YES & OES - Character Cards



Cow

Moo!

Wk 4 - YES & OES - Character Cards



Wise Man 1

*Follow
the
star!*

Wk 4 - YES & OES - Character Cards



Wise Man 2

*Follow
the
star!*

Wk 4 - YES & OES - Character Cards



Wise Man 3

*Follow
the
star!*

Wk 4 - YES & OES - Character Cards



Donkey

Hee-haw!

Wk 4 - YES & OES - Character Cards



Sheep

Baaaaa!

Wk 4 - YES & OES - Character Cards



Cow

Moo!

Wk 4 - YES & OES - Character Cards



Need to Know:

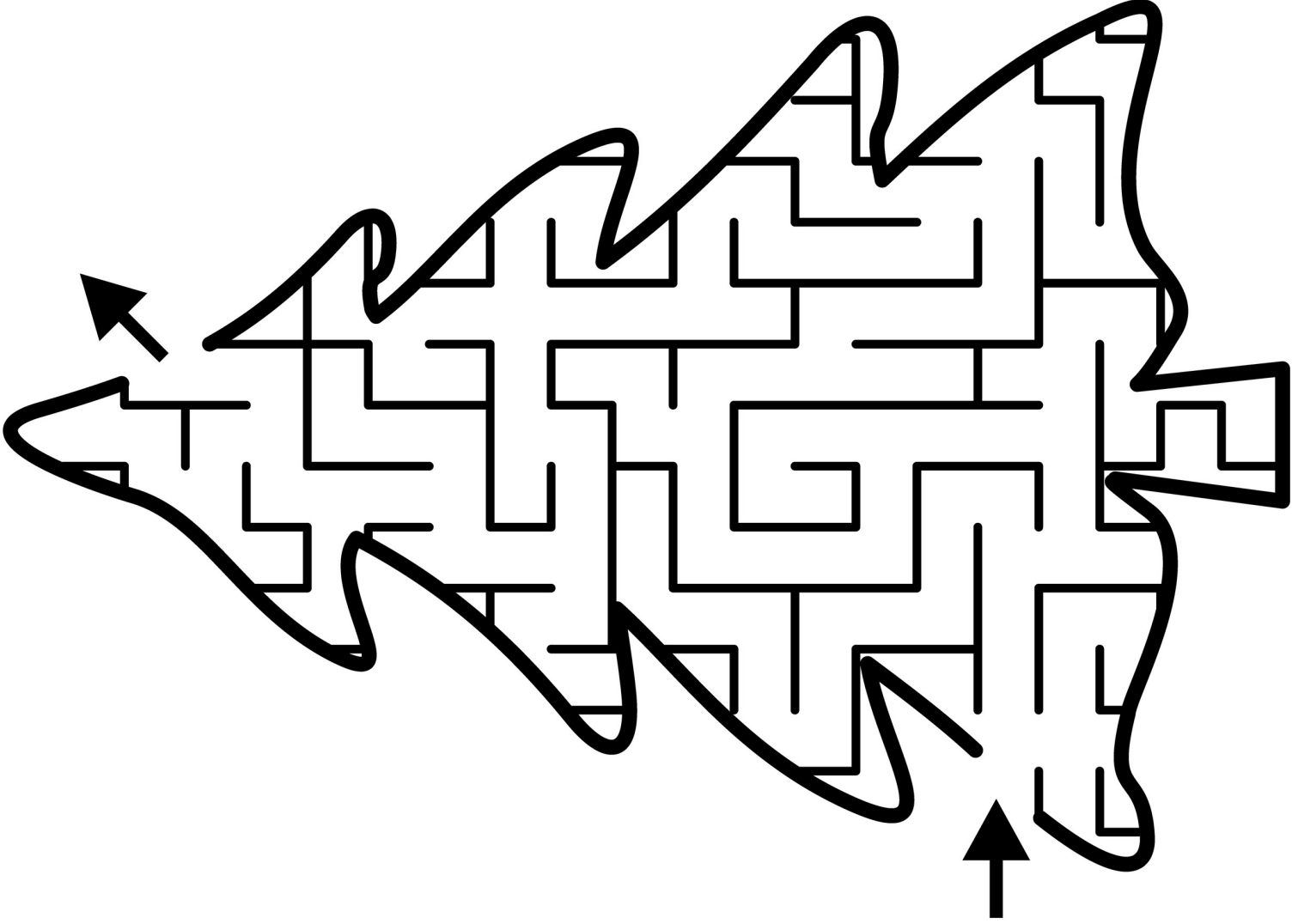
Bible Story:

Memory Verse:

I Can Celebrate Jesus

Jesus Is Born (Luke 1:26-38, 2:1-20, Matthew 1:18-25, 2:1-23)

"Thanks be to God for His gift that is too wonderful for words." 2 Corinthians 9:15 (NCV)



Name _____



Need to Know: I Can Celebrate Jesus
Bible Story: Jesus Is Born (Luke 1:26-38, 2:1-20, Matthew 1:18-25, 2:1-23)
Memory Verse: "Thanks be to God for His gift that is too wonderful for words." 2 Corinthians 9:15 (NCV)

