

ALLEY LG – Dec 27th

Bible Story: Shepherd Guys Are Comin' to Town (Shepherds visit Jesus) • *Luke 2:8-20*

Bottom Line: God gave us great news. Who will you tell?

Memory Verse: “God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son. Anyone who believes in him will not die but will have eternal life.” *John 3:16, NIV*

Life App: Compassion—caring enough to do something about someone else’s need.

SFX: *Play high-energy music as kids enter.*

Worship:

Christmas This Year - Toby Mac

Angels We have Heard on High - Chris Tomlin

Emanuel - Chris Tomlin

Host enters wearing an elf costume.

Theme slide- Triple Dog Dare

Opener

HOST: “Hello, everyone! Merry after Christmas! I hope that all of you had a truly amazing Christmas Eve, Christmas morning, afternoon, evening, and night! Mine was awesome! I spent a big chunk of the day watching my favorite Christmas movies, and that’s where I got the idea for this costume! Who thinks they can guess which movie this costume comes from? *(Pause for responses.)* Yes, this is an elf costume, but what movie does it come from? *(Pause.)* Yes, I already said it is an elf costume. You’re right. It’s an elf costume. But what MOVIE does it come from? *(Pause.)* Okay, I’m not sure you guys understand my question. Let’s take a look at this clip to help you....

Video: Elf clip

Christmas has been so awesome, I don’t want it to end. So let’s play another Christmas game to keep the holiday going! It’s called ‘Finish the Song!’

CG: “Finish the Song!” Slide

“One of the things that makes Christmas special is that there are a whole bunch of songs about Christmas and you only hear those songs at Christmas time. And we’re going to use a bunch of those songs in this game. Here’s what will happen. I’ll call on one of you to volunteer and you’ll come up here and stand next to me. Then some lyrics, or words, to a famous Christmas song will show up on the screen, but there will be a couple of missing words at the end. I will sing the lyrics on the screen and

then you will have to sing the missing lyrics in order to ... finish the song! And if you are correct, you might just win a prize for yourself. Who thinks they know all the Christmas songs and would like to volunteer first?

Ask for volunteers and work through the following slides one at a time, handing out prizes to the kids who can sing the correct words to finish the songs.

CG: "Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer" Slide

CG: "Jingle Bells" Slide

CG: "O Little Town of Bethlehem" Slide

CG: "Frosty the Snowman" Slide

CG: "Winter Wonderland" Slide

CG: "Away in a Manger" Slide

CG: "Silent Night" Slide

CG: "Rockin' Around the Christmas Tree" Slide

"Wow! You really know your Christmas songs! I love singing Christmas songs with other people because it reminds me to think about how I can show compassion to others.

CG: Compassion Slide

"Compassion is caring enough to do something about someone else's need. Now, I hope that everyone got the presents that they wanted this Christmas, but I also hope that you were able to give presents to some of the important people in your life. When you stop thinking about what you want and start thinking about what other people want and need, you're thinking with compassion. And because I don't want the compassion to stop when Christmas ends, I vote that we keep Christmas going and going and going!"

SETTING UP THE STORY

STORYTELLER: "And I have one more Christmas Bible story to tell you right after we look at our memory verse for December one more time.

CG: Memory Verse Slide

"John 3:16 says "For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life." *NIV*) This is definitely a verse worth remembering! When you think about it, the entire Christmas story can be wrapped up in that one verse. God loved us and He gave us His Son. That's the story of Christmas."

Take a look at this video...

Video: 252 Movie week 4

WRAPPING UP THE STORY

STORYTELLER: “Just because Christmas is over doesn’t mean that you have to stop thinking about the Christmas story. And there’s something else you can do that’s also really important. You can do what the shepherds did in the story. You can spread the news and tell others about Jesus! In fact, that can be your mission for the new year.”

There’s another holiday right after Christmas: New Year’s Day. It’s January first and it’s when we celebrate the start of a brand new year. One of the ways we do that is we pick out something we would like to do differently in the year to come. Your mission for the new year could be to tell more people about Jesus.”

So let’s make that our Bottom Line for today.

CG: Bottom Line Slide

[Bottom Line] “**God gave us great news. Who will you tell?** Take some time early in this next year to think about some people who you know that you could tell about Jesus. Maybe there’s a friend at school you can invite to church, or maybe there’s someone in your family who you could talk to. The point is that, like the shepherds in the story, we all have some really good news that we should tell to other people.

“Let’s make a special point of telling more people about that in the new year. Let’s pray and ask God to help us with that.”

Pray

STORYTELLER: “Dear God, thank You for loving us enough to send us Jesus. And thank You for entrusting us with the mission of telling others about Him. Please give us the courage and the opportunity to tell the people You have placed in our lives about Jesus. We love You and we ask these things in Jesus’ name, amen.”

Dismiss children to their Small Groups.