

## CITY SG – December 9- 10, 2023

**Today's Bible Story:** Our King of Peace (Gabriel Appears to Mary) • *Luke 1:26-56*

**Today's Bottom Line:** You can have peace because God has a plan.

**Monthly Memory Verse:** *A child will be born to us. A son will be given to us.* Isaiah 9:6a (NIRV)

**Monthly Virtue:** Christmas—Celebrating Jesus, God's greatest gift

### 1. Story Sequence

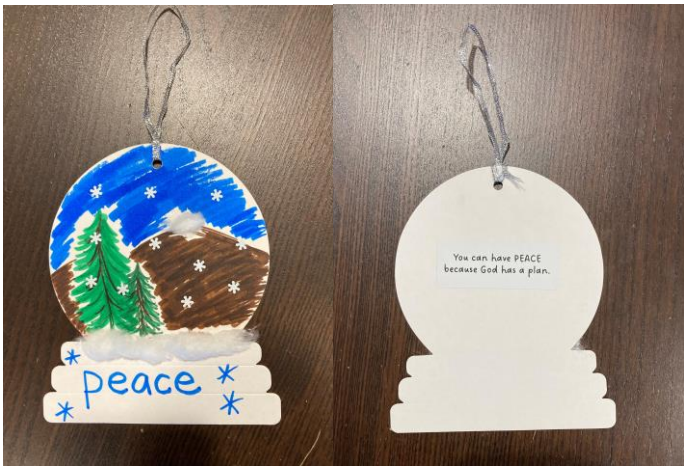
*Connection/Bible Story Review*

**What You Need:** "Story Ornaments" cards (2 sets per bin)

#### What You Do:

- One at a time, read the following "Would you rather" questions.
- As you read the scenarios, point to the side of the room kids should go to demonstrate their preference.
- Would you rather:
  - Have a Christmas tree or Christmas cookies?
  - Have one fantastic gift or ten okay gifts?
  - Get up early on Christmas Day or stay up late on Christmas Eve?
  - Eat peppermint candy canes or different flavored candy canes?
  - Decorate with colored lights or white lights?
  - Sing "Jingle Bells" or "Silent Night"?
  - Travel for Christmas or stay home?
  - Have a white Christmas or no snow?
  - Put up the Christmas tree before Thanksgiving or wait until December?
  - Receive wrapped gifts or gifts in bags?
  - Eat a turkey or ham dinner?
  - Have sweet potatoes or regular potatoes?
  - Open gifts on Christmas Eve or Christmas Day?
- Take out the Story ornaments.
- Set them out and read each one to the group.
- Work as a group to put them in order of what happened in the Bible Story today.
- Say, "One of the most powerful emotions Mary felt was peace! She had peace in the middle of an unexpected situation because she knew God was with her, no matter what happened, and had a perfect plan."

## 2. Peace Ornament Craft



**What You Need:** ornament, string, bottom line sticker (one of each per kid), bag of décor, glue pen for leaders

### What You Do:

- Ask the kids what the bottom line from today is?  
**You can have peace because God has a plan.**
- Say, “Even though Mary was scared and didn’t know the whole story yet, she had peace in the middle of something completely unexpected because she trusted God.”
- Pass out an ornament to each child. Have them place bottom line sticker on one side of ornament. This will be the back of the ornament.
- Place the markers and décor in the middle of the group to share.
- Tell kids to write the word **PEACE** on the front side bottom of their snow globe ornament.  
**\*You may have to help younger kids write the word.**
- Have them draw any kind of Christmas scene they want on the front side of the globe.
- Leaders may help put small dots of glue (using pen) for the snowflakes.
- When they are finished, help them add the string to the hole in the top. See picture below.



- Tell kids to hang this on their tree as a reminder of the PEACE they can have because of Jesus.

### 3. Jesus Is

#### Memory Verse Activity

#### What You Need: Bibles

#### What You Do:

- Read the whole verse of **Isaiah 9:6** using one of the ways below.
- Depending on the age/ability of your group, you can either:
  - Give each child a Bible and look up the memory verse together.
  - Read the memory verse to the group.
  - *"A child will be born to us. A son will be given to us. He will rule over us. And he will be called wonderful adviser and Mighty God. He will also be called Father Who Lives Forever and Prince Who Brings Peace. Isaiah 9:6"*
- Recite the entire verse a few times together.
- Invite the kids to think of a word that describes them to put before their name.
  - For example, Happy Silas, Creative Brielle, etc.
- Share an adjective that you know applies to each kid if they get stuck.
- Ask the kids to take turns sharing what they thought about by saying an adjective that describes them and their name.
- Play multiple rounds so kids can share a few words that describe them.
- When done, read the entire verse a few times.
- Ask the kids to share the different adjectives from the verse that describe Jesus.
- Ask, "What does WONDERFUL mean?" (*Invite responses.*) Wonderful means that Jesus is very, very good.
- Ask, "What does mighty mean?" (*Invite responses.*) Mighty means powerful and strong.
- Ask, "This verse also says that Jesus is the Father who lives forever. What does that mean?" (*Invite responses.*) It means that He has no beginning and no end. Jesus will live forever!
- Ask, "Isaiah also told God's people that Jesus is the Prince who brings Peace. What does that mean?" (*Invite responses.*) It means that Jesus is the ruler of peace who brings peace to His people.

### 4. Pray

- "Dear God, thank You for reminding us today that just like You had a perfect plan for Mary, You have a perfect plan for our lives. Help us remember that You promise to make everything that is wrong and confusing right. We want to trust You with the plan You have for our lives and come to You with our concerns, worries, and disappointments so we can have peace in all our situations. Thank You that **[Bottom Line] [we] can have peace because God has a plan.** Amen."

**PARENT PICK UP POINT:** As adults arrive to pick up, encourage the kids to show their ornament to their parents and tell them about our bottom line for today. "We can have peace because God has a plan."