

ALLEY SG – December 14 - 15, 2024

Today's Bible Story: Born to Save (Jesus Is Born) • *Luke 2:1-7*

Today's Key Question: What does Christmas mean to you?

Today's Bottom Line: Celebrate because God sent a Savior.

Monthly Memory Verse: "[Mary] 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)

1. Take a Snapshot

Application Activity



What You Need: Joy wooden ornament (one per kid), thin markers

What You Do:

- Ask kids if they know the words to the song, "Joy to the World."
- Sing or say the following verse together.
*"Joy to the world, the Lord is come.
Let earth receive her King.
Let every heart prepare him room.
And heaven and nature sing."*
- Ask:
 - How can choosing Jesus give you the gift of joy?
 - What makes you most joyful when you think of Jesus?
- Give each kid a JOY ornament.
- Invite kids to color it and add the string
- Encourage kids to take their ornaments home to celebrate Jesus who came to bring joy to the world!

2. Christmas Bingo

Bible Story Review

What You Need: Christmas Bingo cards and chips, prize bin

What You Do:

- Pass out the bingo cards and chips.

- Let them know you will review the story as you play bingo.
- As a Christmas symbol is called, ask kids to review what it has to do with the Christmas story.
- As kids win, let them pick a prize.
- Play several rounds.
- If any kids haven't won, let them pick a prize.

3. Discussion Questions

- How do you think Mary and Joseph found joy despite their unusual circumstances?
- Can you think of a time when you felt joy even though things didn't go as you expected?
- How is joy different from happiness?
- What does Christmas mean to you?

AT THE 5- MINUTE CALL: PRAY

- Ask, "Does anyone have any prayer requests or things they want to thank God for from this week? *(Let the kids share their prayer requests and praises)*"
- Take some time to pray for these things as a group, then finish with the prayer below...

"Dear God, thank You for sending Jesus to be our Savior and bring us joy, peace, and hope. Just like Mary and Joseph, help us to trust in You, to celebrate the gift of Jesus, and to have joy when unexpected things happen in our lives. Help us to remember that You are always with us. We love You, and we pray these things in Jesus' name. Amen."
- If there is still time, pass out the Discussion Guides to the kids and begin to read through them together. Remind them they can do the activity at home and bring it back the next time Alley is in session, January 4- 5, for a prize.

PARENT PICK UP POINT: As adults arrive to pick up, encourage the kids to show their ornament and tell how Jesus gives them joy.

Remind Parents and Kids the the Alley will not be open for Christmas Services and the following weekend, December 29-29, will be on video only. **The Alley resumes on January 4-5, 2025** and Winterpalooza is the weekend of January 11 – 12, 2025.