

DON'T GIVE CHEAP GIFTS

Week 3

Props: Get creative with Christmas decor - set up a tree, nativity scene printed and hung on the wall, or make big ornaments out of paper and write "Relationships", "Make room for Jesus" and "Give good gifts" on each one and hang on the wall.

-SLIDE- Welcome (Start kid's countdown once all classes are present)

Hey kids! Welcome to kid's church. I'm so glad you could be here today.

-SLIDE- Series Intro (2 min)

We're finishing up our Christmas series this week, and we've been learning that Christmas is about more than yummy cookies, decorations, and even fun presents. It's about relationships and making someone our top priority! Let's do a quick review. Jesus came from Heaven to have a relationship with who? **(allow kids to answer)** Right, with us! That's how he got his nickname Immanuel, which means "God with us." He came so we could have a great relationship with God AND with those around us. Last week we learned that the inn didn't have room for Mary and baby Jesus so he was born in a stinky barn! Who do we need to make room for in our hearts? **(allow kids to answer)** Right, Jesus! This means that we need to make him our top priority, doing things like reading the Bible and praying.

Today, we're going to talk about one of our favorite parts of Christmas-presents! I want you to think about the coolest present you've ever gotten. On the count of three, I want everyone to shout out their favorite present. One, two, three! **(allow kids to answer)** Those are awesome gifts! But guess what? God gave us a gift that's even better than ALL of those gifts combined!

We'll talk more about this in a few minutes, but first, let's stand and sing. This is our last week to practice this song to get ready for the Christmas Eve service!

-SONG- O Come All Ye Faithful (3 min)

Good job. This will be a very special part of the Christmas Eve service! Let's sit down and get ready for our lesson.

-SLIDE- Big Idea: God gave us the most valuable gift of all. (repeat)

-VIDEO- Christmas 3 (4 min)

-SLIDE- Recap (3 min)

So, what did we learn from the video today? Let's review...

- The wise men gave Jesus ___ gifts. (expensive)
- True or False: We should give cheap gifts. (False)
- Who gave us the most valuable gift of all? (God)

Great job! The story of Christmas tells us that when the wise men found Jesus, they gave him amazing gifts! Even though the wise men were older, smarter, and probably liked getting gifts themselves, they decided to GIVE gifts to a little baby. They did it because they knew Jesus was special and they wanted to show him love and respect.

That reminds me of our memory verse. Let's all stand and read it together.

-SLIDE- Memory Verse: "She will give birth (**hands on your belly**) to a son, and they will call (**cup hands around mouth**) him Immanuel, which means 'God (**point to the sky**) is with us' (**hands over heart**)" Matthew 1:23 (**Repeat**)

Jesus is the best gift we could ever receive because he came to die for OUR sins so that we could live in Heaven with him some day. So, this Christmas, remember that Jesus is the best gift, better than a new Xbox or bike. And, remember to give gifts to your friends and family to show them your love and respect.

Now let's stand together and sing one last song to God.

-SONG- Joy to the World (3 min)

Okay, let's all say the Big Idea together one last time!

-SLIDE- Big Idea: God gave us the most valuable gift of all. (Repeat)

-SLIDE- Feed My Starving Children M&M campaign

This is the last opportunity to grab an M&M container from the KC desk! Bring it with you to the Christmas Eve service full of quarters to feed starving children around the world.

-SLIDE- Let's Pray (then dismiss)