

GOOD NEWS CLUB AGENDA

CHRISTMAS – *If He Had Not Come & The Eternal God*

WEEK OF:

MAIN TRUTH: You should show God's love to others because He showed His love to you.

TO DO AS THE CHILDREN ARRIVE:

1. Greet the children; make them feel welcome.
2. Take attendance.
3. Listen to previous week's memory verse.
4. Have children put money in missions bank.

PRE-SESSION ACTIVITY:

1. OLDER CHILD: Christmas Play Puzzle"
2. YOUNGER CHILD: "Gifts for Jesus"

SONG: (2 minutes)

PRAYER: (4 minutes)

1. Prayer song: _____
2. Ask the children to share any "Thank You Prayers" or "Please Prayers" they have.
3. Lead the class in "Thank You Prayers" and "Please Prayers."

MEMORY VERSE: (7 minutes)

1 John 4:9 – "... **God sent His only begotten Son into the world, that we might live through Him.**"

(The underlined portion of the verse indicates what the younger children should memorize. See "Involvement Helps for Younger Children" for helps in teaching the verse to the younger children.)

"Sing It" – After you have read this verse from your Bible, explained what it means, and repeated it at least two times, you may begin this drill. Sing it to the tune of "The First Noel." NOTE: The number of hyphens ("-") in a word indicates how many notes are assigned to that word.

"Fir-st Jo-hn, chap-ter four, a-nd ve-r-se nine.

'... G-od se-nt His on-ly be-g-ot-ten- Son i-n-t-o- th-e world,
th-at w-e might live thr-ough H-im.'

First John, chap-ter four, and verse nine."

HYMN OF YOUR CHOICE: (2 minutes)

BIBLE LESSON: (25 minutes)

CHRISTMAS – *If He Had Not Come & The Eternal God*

COUNSEL TIME:

(If you have a helper, hostess, or Teacher Junior Grade, let them do the review time while you counsel those who responded to the invitation. Otherwise, at the end of club, be sure to remind the children who responded to the invitation to stay after club for a few minutes.)

TAKE TIME TO REVIEW/QUIET TIME NOTEBOOK: (1 minute)

From the returned TTtR/Q.T.N.s, mention one or two of the children's responses to the Main Truth challenge. Hand out Take Time to Review/Quiet Time Notebook, If He Had Not Come. Ask the children to complete the booklet before the next club. Remind them that they need to show you their TTtR/Q.T. Notebook next week.

E.O.T.O.: (2 minutes)

“Family Worship Candle” – Explain the purpose of the Each One Tell One (E.O.T.O.) and demonstrate for the children how to use it. Encourage them to share this with their family at Christmas.

LEARNING ABOUT THE BIBLE & THE OLD TESTAMENT BOOKS: (5 minutes)

Teach information for Week #10.

MISSIONARY TIME: (4 minutes)

1. Pray for the missionaries.
2. Show goal chart and mention the amount given so far.
3. Share the take home offering holder for their gift for missions. (Return in Feb. as love gift.)

REVIEW ACTIVITY: (8 minutes)

Use the Review Activity below.

“Everyone Is a Winner” – Place several candy canes in a large-size stocking. You will need at least one per child you expect to attend. Fold the stocking and place in a small box. Wrap the package in Christmas paper. Place this box in another box and wrap again. Continue this until you have wrapped ten boxes. (OR number you think need for your class.) Wrap the very last box beautifully. When a child correctly answers a review question, he may unwrap the first package only. After the next review question, the child who answered the question may unwrap the next package. Continue in the same manner until the last package is unwrapped and the candy canes are found. Give each child one. There is no competition in this game, and everyone is a winner! - **Gayle Stahlman, Give & Take, December 1995.**

Review questions for CHRISTMAS:

1. **What words did Bobby remember as he tried to fall asleep?** (“If I had not come.”)
2. **Who had spoken these words?** (Jesus – John 15:22.)
3. **What did the baker and grocer say when Bobby asked why they were open on Christmas?** (“Christmas? What’s Christmas?”)
4. **How did Bobby try to explain to them what Christmas is?** (“It’s Christ’s birthday. The first part of the word ‘Christmas’ is *Christ*.”)
5. **What did Bobby discover when he went to the church, the orphans’ home, and the hospital?** (They weren’t there *and* the five words, “If I had not come.”)
6. **What happened when Bobby went to the mission?** (Men were gambling and swearing.)
7. **When Bobby went home and looked in his Bible, what did he discover?** (There was no New Testament.)
8. **What did Bobby discover life would be like if Jesus had not come?** (It would be terrible because there would be not good in the world, only evil.)
9. **Because God showed His love to you, what does He want you to show others?** (His love.)
10. **Why do we celebrate Christmas?** (It is when Jesus was born as a baby here on Earth.)

*COUNSEL TIME: (*Only if you did not counsel with the children earlier.)

SEND HOME WITH THE CHILDREN:

1. Pre-session papers for older and younger child
2. Memory verse token
3. E.O.T.O.: “Family Worship Candle”
4. Take Time to Review/Quiet Time, If He Had Not Come




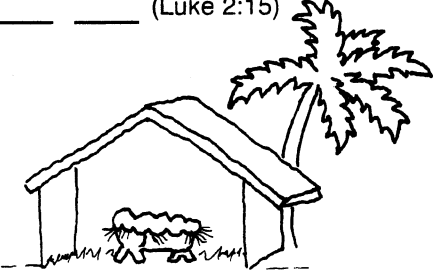
PRE-SESSION, Older Child – **CHRISTMAS**
If He Had Not Come & The Eternal God


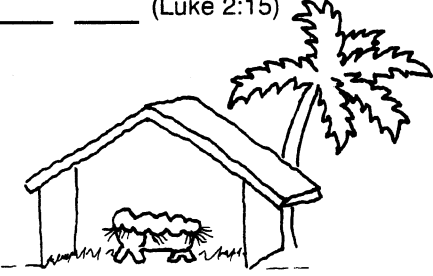
Christmas Play Puzzle

Use your Bible to find nine missing characters. Some letters are already filled in for you.
 When you've found them all you will also be able to see why the Christmas Babe is the biggest
 star... Check the circles!

He came to be _____ !

The Christmas Play is About to Begin... But Where are the Main Characters?

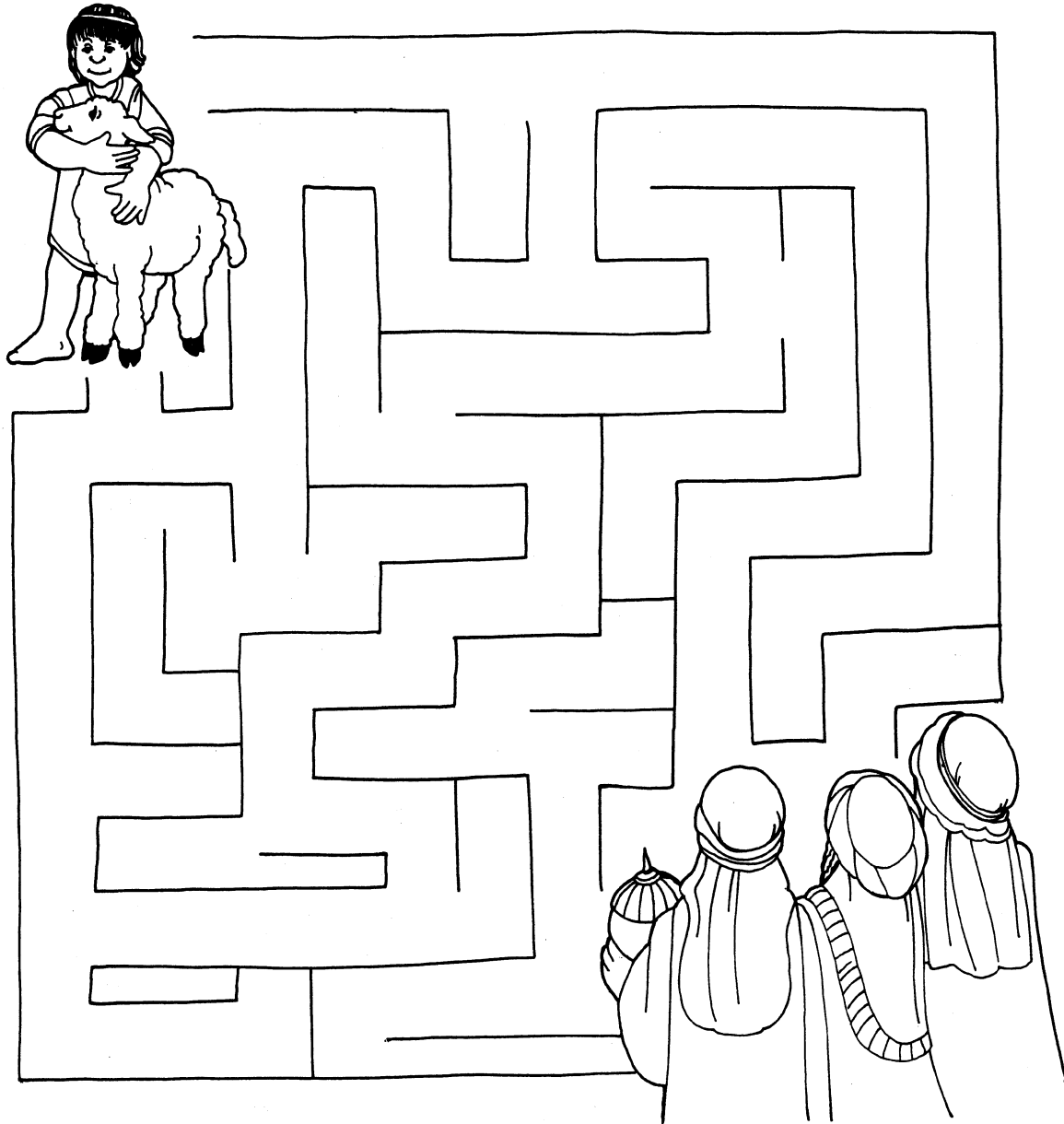
	1. <u>H</u> _____	_____	(Matthew 2:1)	
	2. _____ <u>S</u> _____	_____	(Luke 2:21)	
	3. _____ <u>A</u> _____	_____	(Matthew 1:18)	
	4. _____ _____	_____ <u>P</u> _____	(Luke 2:4)	
	5. _____ _____	_____ <u>E</u> _____	(Matthew 1:20)	
	6. _____ _____	<u>H</u> _____ _____	(Luke 2:13)	
	7. _____ _____	_____ <u>M</u> _____	(Matthew 2:1)	
	8. <u>S</u> _____ _____	_____ _____	(Luke 2:25)	
9. _____ <u>H</u> _____ _____	_____ _____	_____ _____	(Luke 2:15)	

PRE-SESSION, Younger Child – CHRISTMAS
If He Had Not Come & The Eternal God

Gifts for Jesus

The wise men are trying to find Jesus to give Him their gifts. Help the wise men get their gifts to Jesus by finding a path through the maze.



“... God sent His only begotten Son ... that we might live”

1 John 4:9

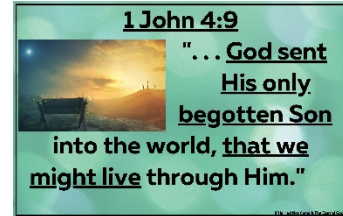
MEMORY VERSE HELPS

CHRISTMAS – *If He Had Not Come & The Eternal God*

MEMORY VERSE:

1 John 4:9 – “... God sent His only begotten Son into the world, that we might live through Him.”

(The underlined portion of the verse indicates what the younger children should memorize.)



INTRODUCE THE VERSE:

Near the end of the New Testament is a verse written by John the apostle that reminds us of the very first Christmas when God sent His Son into the world.

READ THE VERSE:

Read the verse from your Bible or have an older child to do so; then have the children read with you from the verse visual.

EXPLAIN THE VERSE:

1 John 4:9 – This is where the verse is found in the Bible. We call it the address, or reference. It is found in the book of 1 John, chapter 4, and verse 9.

“... God” – The Creator of the universe, the One who loves you, did something very special for you. The three dots at the beginning means that we are not learning the first part of the verse.

“sent His only begotten Son” – God sent His Son, the Lord Jesus, to be born as a baby. *Begotten* means that He is different from everyone else. Jesus is God’s Son.

“into the world,” – Jesus left the glories of Heaven and was born in a humble stable on earth. This is a beautiful picture of God’s love for us.

“that we might live through Him.” – The reason Jesus was sent into this world was so that He could sacrifice His life on the cross and offer the free gift of eternal life to all those who believe in Him. His desire for us is to live our lives through Him and with His power.

REPEAT THE VERSE:

“Sing It” – After reading this verse from the Bible, explaining what it means, and repeating it at least two times, you may begin this activity. Sing it to the tune of “The First Noel.”

NOTE: The number of hyphens (“-”) in a word indicates how many notes are assigned to that word.

“Fir-st Jo-hn, chap-ter four, a-nd ve-r-se nine.

‘... G-od se-nt His on-ly be-g-ot-ten- Son i-n-t-o- th-e world, th-at w-e might live thr-ough H-im.’

First John, chap-ter four, and verse nine.”

HELPS FOR YOUNGER CHILDREN

If He Had Not Come/The Eternal God

Memory Verse

For younger children, teach only the underlined portion of the verse.

1 John 4:9 “. . . God sent His only begotten Son into the world, that we might live through Him.”

Bible Lesson Involvement Helps

Intro/Cover:

Have the children say, *“If I Had Not Come.”*

Flashcard 1:

Have the children draw a large circle in the air as explained.

S – Have children repeat the definition of sin, using the motions. “Sin is anything you think (point to head), say (point to mouth), or do (make fists) that is not right (shake head “no”) in God’s sight.

Flashcard 2:

Have the children write on a scroll like the prophets, roll scroll up. Hand scroll to neighbor.

Flashcard 3:

O – Have children sign the name of Jesus. (Right middle finger to bottom of left palm, left middle finger to bottom of right palm)

Have the children repeat with you *“I am the Lord’s servant,”*

Flashcard 4:

Have the children say *“Jesus”* quietly with you and make the sign for Jesus.

Have the children say *“emperor”* with you.

Flashcard 5:

Have the children say *“Bethlehem.”*

Flashcard 6:

Have the children walk in place, leading a donkey with tired face.

Flashcard 7:

Have the children say *“No room, No room.”* Shaking head no.

Flashcard 8:

Have the children make the sound of sheep, *“Bah, Bah,”* Hold hand up to stop.

Flashcard 9:

Have the children cover eyes, then blink eyes from bright light.

Have the children say *“Glory to God, Glory to God!”*

G – Have children say, *“God loves me!”* while doing the motions. (Point up to Heaven, Hug self, Point to self)

Flashcard 12:

Have children turn to neighbor and say *"Jesus is born! Jesus is born!"*

Have children stand and draw a circle in the air.

Flashcard 16:

P, E – Sing both verses of "You & Me" with the children. (Speak to your director if you do not know this song.)

Bible Learning Game, Main Truth: You should show God's love to others because He showed His love to you.

Needed supplies: Cut one of the included "manger to the cross" pictures out for each child.

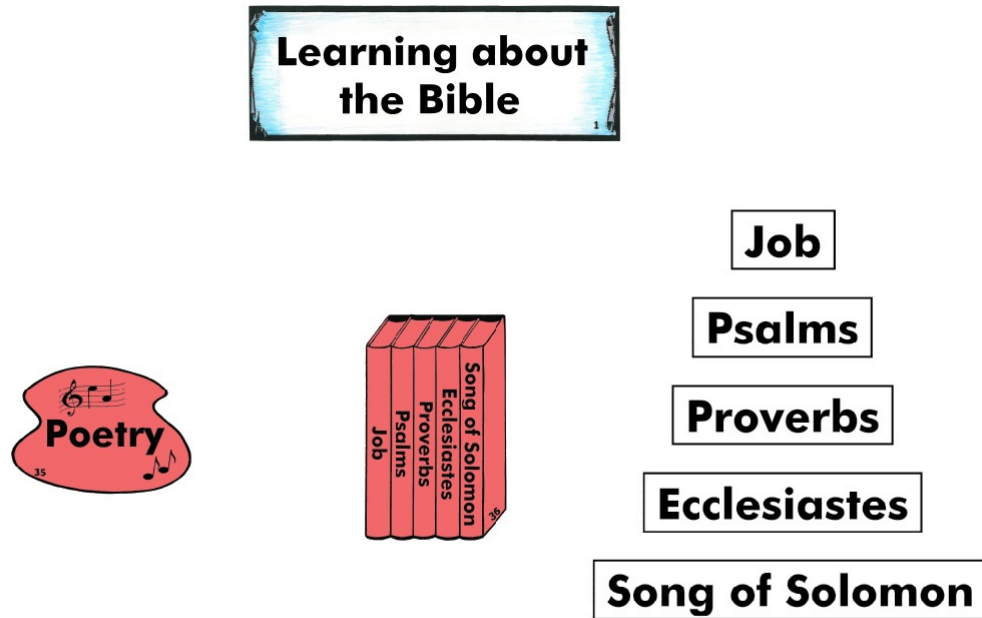
Have children turn around and close eyes, or move to another room with a helper. Hide (or place in view) one picture for each child in attendance. Count to 3 and have the children turn around or come into the room. Each child finds one picture and brings it to you. When they hand you the picture, they must tell you one way to show God's love to others. When all the children are finished, everyone says today's memory verse together.



Image created with a paid Canva account and is reproducible.

LEARNING ABOUT THE BIBLE & THE OLD TESTAMENT BOOKS

WEEK #10



(Place figure #1.) (Review the five books of Law, the 12 books of History, and the first three books of Poetry. If time allows, review something about the name or content of each book.) **(Place figures #35 and #36.)** Today, we want to learn a little about the last two books of Poetry: Ecclesiastes and Song of Solomon. **(Place Ecclesiastes wordstrip.)** Ecclesiastes has many examples that show how meaningless life is without God. We know that true happiness is based on knowing and following God. King Solomon is probably the author. **(Place Song of Solomon wordstrip.)** The last book of Poetry is the Song of Solomon. It was written by King Solomon early in his life, and it is a love song. It is also a reminder of God's love for Israel and of Christ's love for all who believe in Him. *(Practice saying the names of the five books of Law, the 12 books of History, and the five books of Poetry.)*



Remember to
thank God that
Jesus
did
come



- How wonderful that Jesus came!

COVER FLASHCARD

- Everything would be very different if Jesus had not come
- Yes, would be no Christmas trees, decorations, or presents
- But even worse, you and I would be separated from God because of our sin...
- We would never be able to be forgiven & have that wonderful relationship with God!
- But Jesus did come!

FLASHCARD 7

- Just then there came the sound of bells; Chimes were playing!
- Bobby listened; It was his favorite hymn, "Joy to the World, the Lord is Come!"
- Then he heard mother's voice, "Wake up! Merry Christmas!"
- Bobby said excitedly, "It was a dream! It is Christmas! Jesus really did come!"

FLASHCARD 8

- Bobby knelt by bed & thanked God for keeping His promise & sending Jesus to save him
- If you know Jesus as Saviour, you should be thankful that God sent Jesus that first Christmas too

CHALLENGE

G – Go over MT

MT, PAS – REMEMBER TO THANK GOD THAT JESUS DID COME

2 Corinthians 9:15 – “*Thanks be unto God for His unspeakable gift.*”

O – Overview PAS examples

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

W – Will you do it?

INVITATION

John 1:12 – “*But as many as received Him, to them gave He power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on His name.*”

**S
P, E
L**

BOW HEADS RESPONSE

If He Had Not Come and The Eternal God

Luke 1:26-38, 2:1-20

Matthew 1:18-25, 2:1-12

FLASHCARD 1

- Was Christmas Eve; Bobby hung stocking & was ready for bed

FLASHCARD 2

- Dad read John 15:22; Jesus said, “If I had not come....”

FLASHCARD 3

- Bobby went to bed thinking about these words; Seemed he wasn’t asleep very long when suddenly, “Get up! Get up!”

FLASHCARD 4

- Bobby hurried downstairs; It was quiet; But were no stockings, no decorations, no Christmas tree!

FLASHCARD 5

- Bobby hurried to bakery; Asked, “Why is the bakery open on Christmas?”
- Baker answered, “Christmas? What’s that? This is one of our busiest days! Get going!”

COVER FLASHCARD

- Bobby went to where church was, hoping would be Christmas service, but was no building; Just a sign said, “If I had not come.”

- Maybe you’re thinking, “Would be sad not to decorate, sing Christmas songs, open presents”
- But there is something we celebrate during Christmas that’s even better than all of that!
- Do you know what it is? Yes! We celebrate when Jesus was born
- But do you know why it was so important that He came?
- Let’s start at the very beginning

ILLUSTRATION 1

- In beginning God existed; Had no beginning; Will have no end
- God created man & woman to have a wonderful relationship with Him
- But the man and woman chose to disobey God; Sin entered world
- Ever since, every person has been born a sinner who deserves punishment by God for their sin; That includes you and me

S, PAU

Romans 5:12 – “...By one man sin entered into the world, and death by sin, and so death passed upon all men, for all have sinned.”

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

- If you do not know Jesus as your Saviour, your sin separates you from God

- You can't do anything to help save yourself from your sin; You need Someone to save you from it

- Now man and woman were separated from God

- But God made a promise to send Someone to make one way to save His people from their sins

G

ILLUSTRATION 2

- God repeated His promise over the years through prophets who wrote it down for others to read

- Many years later, Mary, a young Jewish girl, was also waiting for God to send the Promised Saviour

ILLUSTRATION 3

- One day, angel came to Mary, said, "You will have a Son..."

- You will call His name Jesus; He will be the Son of the Most High"

- Mary, "I am the Lord's servant; Let it be done what you have said"

ILLUSTRATION 4

- Angel appeared to Joseph; "Don't be afraid to take Mary as your wife..."

- The Child she will have will be the Son of God

- ...You will call His name Jesus for He will save His people from their sins."

ILLUSTRATION 5

- Meanwhile, Roman Emperor made law, "Everyone must go to the city where his family came from..."

- There he must pay a special tax"

ILLUSTRATION 6

- So Joseph & Mary prepared for their long trip to Bethlehem

- But when got to Bethlehem, was crowded; "No room! No room!"

ILLUSTRATION 7

- The only place they could find to stay was a stable!

- Can you imagine? God the Son was born in a cold, smelly stable where animals lived!

ILLUSTRATION 8

- But this was all part of God's plan to save His people from their sins

- Joseph looked down in wonder at Jesus—God, the Son!

ILLUSTRATION 9

- Nearby, shepherds watched their sheep

- Suddenly, angel appeared, told them the Promised Saviour had been born!

- Shepherds said, "Let's go to Bethlehem and see this miracle!"

ILLUSTRATION 10

- They left their sheep and went to find Jesus

- The shepherds were so thankful and excited when saw Jesus and wanted to tell others He was born!

- If you know Jesus as your Saviour, you should be thankful too

MT – REMEMBER TO THANK GOD THAT JESUS DID COME

ILLUSTRATION 11

- From very far away, wise men came to find Jesus; When they found Him, gave Him gifts; Bible says they bowed down and worshiped Him

- Were willing to leave their homes and travel for months to find Jesus; Finding Him was more important than anything else

- What about you?

- This Christmas, what matters most shouldn't be the Christmas tree, songs, or even the presents

- It should be Jesus and that He came

MT, PAS – REMEMBER TO THANK GOD THAT JESUS DID COME

2 Corinthians 9:15 – "Thanks be unto God for His unspeakable gift."

1.

2.

3.

- Will you thank God for Jesus? He is more wonderful than anything else we could enjoy during Christmas!

- Many of us know about Jesus being born as a baby; But what's most important is knowing why He came...

O

- And He came for a very special reason

ILLUSTRATION 12

- God had a plan even before the world was created; Jesus would come as a baby; Grow up

- And He would make that one way for sinners like you and me to be forgiven from our sins so we could have a wonderful relationship with God

P, E

1 Peter 2:24 – "...Who His Own Self bore our sins in Own body on the tree, that we...should live...."