

**DECEMBER 15**

## **Children's Church Lesson: Christmas Theme – "The Birth of Jesus"**

### **Objective:**

To help children understand the true meaning of Christmas by learning about the birth of Jesus and why His birth is a special gift to the world.

### **Scripture Focus:**

#### **Luke 2:10-11 (NIV):**

*"But the angel said to them, 'Do not be afraid. I bring you good news that will cause great joy for all the people. Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; He is the Messiah, the Lord.'"*

### **Lesson Outline:**

#### **1. Welcome & Introduction (5-7 minutes)**

Ask the children:

- "What do you love most about Christmas?"
- Let them share about presents, decorations, and family traditions, then explain that the best gift we celebrate is Jesus!

#### **2. Bible Story: The Birth of Jesus (Luke 2:1-20) (10 minutes)**

Share the story of Mary, Joseph, and the journey to Bethlehem. Highlight the simplicity of Jesus' birth in a stable and how the angels announced His birth to shepherds.

#### **Key Point:**

Jesus came to earth as a gift from God to show His love for us. Even though He was born in a simple stable, He is the greatest King and Savior.

#### **3. Discussion Questions (5-7 minutes):**

- How do you think Mary and Joseph felt when Jesus was born?
- Why do you think Jesus was born in a stable instead of a palace?
- What does Jesus' birth mean to us today?

#### **4. Memory Verse Practice (5 minutes):**

Teach the children Luke 2:10-11. Use fun hand motions or actions to help them remember the verse and its joyful message.

## **Craft: "Nativity Ornament"**

### **Materials Needed:**

- Cardstock or construction paper
- Scissors
- Markers or crayons
- Glue sticks
- String or ribbon
- Small printed images of the nativity (or children can draw their own)

### **Instructions:**

- 1. Prepare the Ornament Shape**
  - Cut out a large circle or star shape from cardstock or construction paper for each child to decorate. This will be the base of their nativity ornament.
- 2. Create the Nativity Scene**
  - Give each child small printed pictures of the nativity scene (baby Jesus, Mary, Joseph, the stable, and animals), or have them draw their own nativity scene inside the ornament shape.
- 3. Decorate the Ornament**
  - Encourage the children to color and decorate their nativity scene using markers, crayons, or glitter. Help them write the memory verse or "Jesus is the Reason for the Season" on the ornament.
- 4. Add the String**
  - Punch a small hole at the top of the ornament and thread a piece of string or ribbon through so they can hang their ornament on a Christmas tree at home or in the church.
- 5. Share & Display**
  - Have the children show their finished nativity ornaments and talk about why Jesus' birth is special.

### **Closing Activity: Birthday Party for Jesus (5 minutes)**

- Explain that Christmas is Jesus' birthday, so we're going to sing "Happy Birthday" to Jesus.
- After singing, have each child thank Jesus for coming into the world.

