



Why Is Jesus Special?

Jesus Is God's Son

Treasure Cove Small Group Guide
Week 1 • November 30/December 1/2
Side 1 • Small Group #1 (10 Minutes)



WELCOME

- Pull out the Bean Bag and toss it to a child sitting in the circle. Ask them to share their name.
- After they share, **Ask** *Would you rather live in an igloo or a tree house?*



BIBLE

Say:

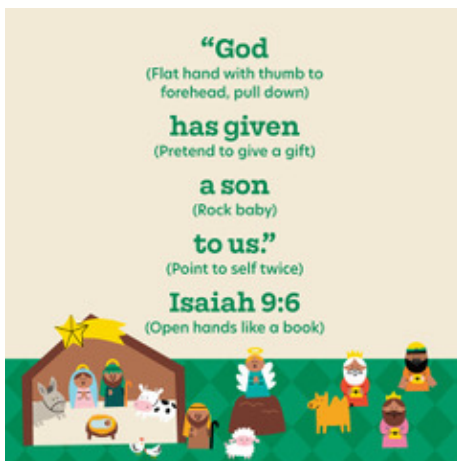
- *We are going to hear a story about a big message someone had to share.*
- *Every time you hear the word "angel," hold your hands up to your mouth like you are shouting.*

Read:

- An Angel Visits Mary: Page 266

Review:

- *What was the big news the Angel had for Mary? She would have a baby, and that baby would be God's son.*
- *Mary was very surprised by the news the angel had for her. But remember what she said, "I love God. I will do what he has chosen for me to do."*



TIPS + TRICKS



Help the kids in your group to practice the Memory Verse by practicing it different ways. First, have them watch you as you say the verse and practice the motions. Then, have them do the motions with you. Next, add the words. You can even ask a confident kid to demonstrate it to the group. Praise kids as they practice the memory verse, even if they don't get it right the first time!



Why Is Jesus Special?

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Treasure Cove Small Group Guide
Week 1 • November 30/December 1/2
Side 2 • Small Group #2 (10 Minutes)



PRAY

Dear God, thank you for Christmas! Thank you for all the fun and exciting things we get to do during Christmas time. Thank you most of all for the gift of Jesus. Help us remember that Jesus is the most important gift. Thank you for loving us. Amen.



ACTIVITY

- Take out the Microphone and ask your Group to stand in a line shoulder to shoulder.
- You will stand a few feet in front of them with the Microphone.
- *The angel had a special job to do by delivering a special message to Mary. We have a very special message to share too! Jesus told us that it is each of our jobs to invite people to church so they can learn about how much he loves them! Raise your hand if you think you can help Jesus with that big job!*
- Ask one of the kids who raised their hands to come to you, hold the microphone, and ask, "Will you come to church with me?"
- Congratulate them for inviting, allow them to go back into the line, and ask again who thinks they can do that.
- Continue asking kids who raise their hand to come up, hold the mic, and ask others to come to church. Celebrate and cheer for each kid who does that.
- Then ask if anyone has something they love about church that they would like to come up to the Microphone to share.



DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- *I have these special Christmas Invitations that you can use to invite others to LCBC this Christmas! Who has someone they can think of that they would like to invite? Give each kid an invite for each person they mention. You can help them fill out the names of the people they mention.*

TAKE HOME

- Christmas Advent (1 per kid, consumable, at the door)
- Christmas Invites (a few per kid, consumable, in Small Group)



Why Is Jesus Special?

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Treasure Cove Small Group Guide

Week 2 • December 7/8/9

Side 1 • Small Group #1 (10 Minutes)



WELCOME

- Pull out the Bean Bag and toss it to a child sitting in the circle. Ask them to share their name.
- After they share, **Ask** *What is your favorite activity to play in the snow?* (Ex: build a snowman, have a snowball fight, make a snow angel, etc.)



BIBLE

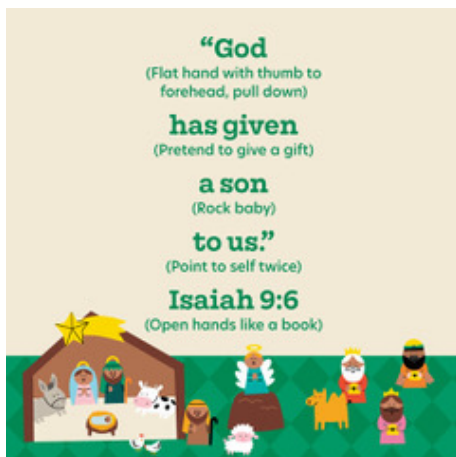
Say:

- *We are going to hear a story about the most special baby that was ever born.*
- *Every time we hear Jesus' name, let's all rock our hands like we are holding a baby!*

Read: Baby Jesus Is Born: Page 271

Review:

- *Why is Jesus special? Jesus is God's son!*
- *Let's all say that together! Jesus is God's son!*
- *Let's say it like an angel. Let's flap our wings. Jesus is God's son!*
- *Let's say it like a sheep. Jesus is God's son!*
- *Let's say it like a baby. Jesus is God's son!*



TIPS + TRICKS



Toddlers love to pretend! As you read the story about Jesus' birth, encourage kids to take care of an imaginary baby Jesus. After they rock the baby, ask them to give it a bottle, sing a lullaby, or burp it! Remind them that as Baby Jesus grew up, he did amazing things!



Why Is Jesus Special?

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Treasure Cove Small Group Guide

Week 2 • December 7/8/9

Side 2 • Small Group #2 (10 Minutes)



PRAY

Dear God, thank you for Christmas! Thank you for all the fun and exciting things we get to do during Christmas time. Thank you most of all for the gift of Jesus. Help us remember that Jesus is the most important gift. Thank you for loving us. Amen.



ACTIVITY

- Take out the Red Cups and place them upside down in the center of your Group with the opening facing the floor.
- Hide Bendable Jesus under one of the cups.
- Mix up the cups so that it would be difficult for kids to guess where he is.
- Let kids take turns one at a time picking up a cup until someone finds Jesus.
- When they find Jesus, ask, "Why is Jesus special?"
- Prompt the kids to respond: *Jesus is God's son!*
- Keep playing.



DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- *Jesus is so special because he is God's son. I want everyone to know how special he is, do you? Is there someone you know who might not know how special Jesus is?*
- Help kids think of names of people they might know and then fill out Christmas Invites for those people.

TAKE HOME

- Christmas Advent (1 per kid who previously didn't receive, at the door, consumable)
- Christmas Invites (a few a kid, consumable, in Small Group)



Why Is Jesus Special?

Jesus Is God's Son

Treasure Cove Small Group Guide

Week 3 • December 14/15/16

Side 1 • Small Group #1 (10 Minutes)



WELCOME

- Pull out the Bean Bag and toss it to a child sitting in the circle. Ask them to share their name.
- After they share, **Ask** *Would you rather sled down a hill of chocolate or sled down a hill of icing?*



BIBLE

Say:

- *Today's story is about a group of people who traveled a long way to visit Jesus.*
- *Whenever we hear the word "shepherds," we are going to pat the floor with our hands to make it sound like a lot of people walking.*

Read: Shepherds Visit: Page 277

Review:

- *The shepherds knew Jesus was special because he was God's son. They traveled a very long way to meet him. After they met him, they went and told everyone that Jesus was God's son.*
- *Let's be like the shepherds and tell everyone that Jesus is God's son! Let's say "Jesus is God's son" together.*
 - Loud
 - Soft
 - While standing on one foot
 - While spinning in circles



TIPS + TRICKS



Some kids may not have heard of a Shepherd before. After reading the Bible story, have kids look through the Bible to find pictures of shepherds. Encourage kids to practice walking like a shepherd or a sheep to meet baby Jesus!



Why Is Jesus Special?

Jesus Is God's Son

Treasure Cove Small Group Guide

Week 3 • December 14/15/16

Side 2 • Small Group #2 (10 Minutes)



PRAY

Dear God, thank you for Christmas! Thank you for all the fun and exciting things we get to do during Christmas time. Thank you most of all for the gift of Jesus. Help us remember that Jesus is the most important gift. Thank you for loving us. Amen.



ACTIVITY

- Teach your Group to sing the Memory Verse to the tune of Wheels On The Bus:
 - *God has given a son to us,
son to us,
son to us.
God has given a son to us.
Isaiah 9:6*
- Give everyone a Jenga Block.
- Instruct them to stand and put the Block in front of their toes.
- Ask them to sing the Memory Verse together, then jump over the Jenga Block.
- Have them reset and stand behind the Jenga Block.
- Continue singing and jumping.



DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- *You did a great job learning this month's Memory Verse! You can share that Memory Verse with people who you would like to invite to LCBC.*
- *Jesus is so special because he is God's son. I want everyone to know how special he is! Is there someone you know who might not know how special Jesus is?*
- Help kids think of names of people they might know and then fill out Christmas Invites for those people.

TAKE HOME

- Christmas Invites (a few per kid, consumable, in Small Group)



Why Is Jesus Special?

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Treasure Cove Small Group Guide
Week 4 • Eve Gatherings
Side 1 • Small Group #1 (10 Minutes)



WELCOME

- Pull out the Bean Bag and toss it to a child sitting in the circle. Ask them to share their name.
- After they share, **Ask** *Would you rather eat ice cream or drink hot chocolate? What kind of toppings would you like?*



BIBLE

Say:

- *Christmas morning is almost here! Christmas is the day that we celebrate that Jesus, the most special baby ever, was born.*
- *Whenever we hear the word "shepherds," we are going to pat the floor with our hands to make it sound like a lot of people walking.*

Read: Shepherds Visit: Page 277

Review:

- *The shepherds knew Jesus was special because he was God's son. They traveled a very long way to meet him. After they met him, they went and told everyone that Jesus was God's son.*



TIPS + TRICKS



Remember that for some first-time kids, this may be the first time they have ever left their parents! Be patient, positive, and encouraging. Remember it is okay if these kids may not want to participate. Let them and their parents know that you are happy they are here!



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Treasure Cove Small Group Guide
Week 4 • Eve Gatherings
Side 2 • Small Group #2 (10 Minutes)



PRAY

Praying means talking to God. God made the whole earth and everything in it! And he wants to talk to us, can you believe that? He is so good and gives us special gifts. The MOST special gift he gave us was his son, Jesus. Jesus made a way for us to talk to God and for him to talk directly to us! Let's pray now! Dear God, thank you for making us, loving us, and giving us good gifts. Let us think about you and your son Jesus every time we smile this Christmas. Amen.



ACTIVITY

- Give everyone a Party Hat and a Happy Birthday Jesus Sticker.
- Help them put the sticker on their Hat and put the Hat on their head.
- Pass out a Wand With Streamers to each kid.
- *Jesus is so special because he is God's son. Let's celebrate that!*
- Instruct everyone to start marching and follow the leader, while waving their Wands. Give different kids the chance to be the Leader.
- After every few steps, **Ask:** *Why is Jesus special?*
- Prompt the kids to respond: *Jesus is God's son!*



DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- *Does any of your family have traditions for Christmas, or things they plan on doing every year?*
- *What gifts are you hoping to get this Christmas?*
- *Is anyone giving any gifts this Christmas?*

TAKE HOME

- Party Hat With Sticker (1 per kid, consumable)
- Family Watch Party Guide (1 per kid, consumable)