

The First Christmas: Lesson 3

SuperTruth: I will tell others about Jesus, the gift of God.

SuperVerse: *But to all who believed Him and accepted Him, He gave the right to become children of God.* John 1:12 (NLT)

Bible Story: Matthew 1:18–2:12, Luke 2:1–20

Game Materials

Needed:

- Two small, purchased gift bags with handles; or any shopping bags with handles
- Optional: marker
- Tape
- Four unsharpened pencils, blunt sticks, or capped washable markers or pens
- Bible or the Superbook Bible App

Teaching Materials

Needed:

- Copy of Signpost Signs
- Copies of Invitation
- Bible or the Superbook Bible App

SuperVerse Materials

Needed:

- Eight sheets of paper or card stock
- Marker
- Bible or the *Superbook* Bible App

Prayer Materials Needed:

- Bible or the Superbook Bible App

LARGE GROUP / GRADES 1–6

We all have a job to do for God that He has trusted us to do! We are to tell others about God's gift of Jesus! That gift was given to us not to just keep for ourselves, but to share with the world!

- Select a video to have playing as children enter the Large Group room. Videos are under Resources on the top menu bar.
- Play videos in order of appearance in the Video Player or Leader Guide.
- Many scriptures in the Old Testament were signposts that predicted important details about Jesus' birth. These verses tell us not only that Jesus was God's promised Son, but also who His ancestors were and exactly where He would be born! Let's learn more in the Signposts video!

SMALL GROUP / GRADES 1–6

Game: Share the Gift of God (15 minutes)

Objective: Explore the Superbook story with a game about sharing.

- The shepherds immediately went to see the newborn baby. After seeing Jesus, they could not keep the news to themselves; they had to share God's gift with everyone! God gave us a gift, but He doesn't want us to just keep it for ourselves! He wants us to share Jesus with others!

Game Instructions:

- Divide the children into two teams. Each team divides in half again, forming two lines that face each other about 3 feet apart. Children pass gifts bags to each other using pencils.

Teaching: A Child Is Born (15 minutes)

Objective: Discuss the Signposts of Jesus' Birth.

- The Wise Men searched for the star that brought them to Jesus. Children search for stars with signposts about the birth of Jesus, God's gift to us.

Take Home Activity—Discipleship Challenge (2 minutes)

- Even though this Challenge ends today, encourage children to never stop inviting others to church or sharing the Good News!

SuperVerse: Superbook Wave (5 minutes)

Objective: Memorize the Superverse with a group activity.

- John the Baptist was sent by God to be a light and to share the Good News that the Savior of the world was coming! This is exactly what we are to do—share our testimony about Jesus so that others may believe!
- Choose eight children to stand side by side in the front of the room. Give one sheet of the mixed up SuperVerse to each child. Children create a wave with their cards which will be out of order. The rest of the class will direct the cardholders to arrange the cards into the correct order.

Prayer: Good News Prayers (5 minutes)

Objective: Communicate with God.

- Jesus came into the world as a baby—then He grew up to die on the cross for our sins and rise from the grave so we can have new life. The Bible tells us that this Good News will bring great joy to all people.
- Lead the children in prayer. As you mention various groups of people, the children pray silently.

ADDITIONAL ACTIVITIES (REFER TO THE LESSON GUIDE FOR DETAILED INSTRUCTIONS)

Obstacle Course: Take the wise men's journey to Bethlehem. | **Grades 1–6** | 15 min

Object Lesson: Present an object lesson about God's gift to us. | **Grades 1–6** | 10 min

Light Game: Take turns leading others to Bethlehem. | **Grades 1–3** | 10 min

Bible Study: Dig deeper into telling others about Jesus. | **Grades 4–6** | 15 min