



LOW-ENERGY GAME

We Found Him!

[10 min]

Supplies

- baby doll or baby Jesus figurine from a nativity scene

Find Jesus

Say: **Jesus was born in a humble place where animals were kept. Anyone looking for a baby probably wouldn't have searched where the animals were. Let's play a game where we'll search for baby Jesus.**

- Have kids put their heads down and close their eyes while you hide the doll somewhere in your room. It might be behind a door, under a table, or under a pile of baby clothes or blocks. Have an adult or teen helper lead the children in singing a verse of a Christmas song like "Away in a Manger" or "Jingle Bells" while you hide the baby.
- When the song ends, hiding time is up! Turn down the music if you finish hiding before the song ends. Have kids open their eyes and get up to search for the baby Jesus.
- When kids find him, they should silently sit down near where they found him. Encourage kids not to make any noise, but to humbly sit and wait for others to realize where Jesus is.
- Play until everyone is all together near the baby. Then choose someone to hide the baby, and play again.

Talk About It

Say: **Usually when we find something, we want to tell everyone! We may shout or jump up and down or brag and tell everyone we're the best. But when we're humble, we just quietly do our work. Jesus is humble. When he came to earth, he didn't have a big party or try to get a lot of attention. He came quietly without a fuss. Jesus was the best, but he didn't brag or show off. Jesus shows us how to be humble, too.**

Tell about someone *you* know who shows humility. It may be a friend who has a great job but doesn't brag about it, or a family member who does chores without asking for a "thank you."

Ask: • **Who do you know who's humble?** Kids might mention their parents, grandparents, or a caregiver.

Say: **Jesus is humble, and we can be, too. We may not have to sleep on hay, but we can quietly help others.**



TALK-ABOUT VIDEO A Child Is Born

[10 min]

Supplies

- “A Child Is Born” teaching video

Discuss and Watch “A Child Is Born”

Say: Today we’re learning that Jesus is humble. He showed how humble he was by coming to earth in a very humble way! As you watch what happened, look for signs that Jesus is humble. When you see one, raise your hand for a second or two.

Watch “A Child Is Born.”

Ask: • **What signs did you find that Jesus is humble?**

- **Why do you think Jesus came to earth in such a humble way?**
- **This video ended with a verse that says Jesus “entered the world not to be served, but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for you.” That means he gave his life to pay the price for your sins. What can you learn from that?**

Say: Jesus is humble, so we’re humble. He set an example of how to be humble by coming as a baby, being born in a barn, and letting shepherds be the first to know he was born. We can be humble, too, when we’re not focused on always getting the best stuff for ourselves.



DEEPER BIBLE Christmas Pageant

[15 min]

Supplies

- Bible
- simple Christmas pageant props, such as a doll for baby Jesus, a cardboard box for a manger, baby doll blankets for headpieces, wrapping paper tubes for shepherds' staffs, and headband halos for angels

Easy Prep

- Ahead of time, divide the different roles among your adult and teen helpers and have them lead the children according to those roles. This will make it easier to keep children engaged and understanding what they're to do at each part of the Bible story.

Act Out the Christmas Story

Say: **Jesus is humble. He came down from heaven, the best place ever, to be with us! Let's put on a Christmas play together to remember how Jesus came as a little baby to be with us.**

- Choose one child to be Joseph, one child to be Mary, and one child to be a donkey. Divide the parts of angels, shepherds, and sheep among the rest of the children. Tell children you'll do the play a few times, so they'll get to play a different part each time.
- Help children select the props for their parts, if any.
- Explain that you'll read the Christmas story from the Bible, and kids will get to act out their parts as they hear their characters mentioned in the Bible.
- Read Luke 2:1-20. As you read, pause throughout to give children time to act out their parts. Give kids ideas as needed. For example, Joseph, Mary, and the donkey could travel from Nazareth to Bethlehem by walking around the room. Shepherds could pat their "sheep" on the heads or pretend to feed them. And angels could pretend to fly down from heaven to the shepherds and pretend to sing to them. Let children have fun and be creative with their parts!
- Repeat the Christmas play a few times so children have the opportunity to play several parts.

Say: **I'm so glad Jesus came to be with us. Jesus could have come as anyone, even a fancy king. But Jesus came as a baby. Jesus is humble and came to be friends with everyone.**



LIFE APPLICATION WRAP-UP

Line and Circle Prayers

[5 min]

Stand in Line

Say: **Today we found out that Jesus is humble and that he shows us how to be humble, too. We found out how great it is to put others first. Let's take turns putting others first here at church.**

Have the children get in groups of five and line up in their groups. Point out who they're "putting first" based on who is first in line.

Lead the children in a short prayer, saying: **Jesus, help us put others first.**

Then invite the child at the front of each line to put the other children first by moving to the back of the line. Repeat the same process, encouraging children to pray with you ("Jesus, help us put others first"), for each child who is at the beginning of the line.

Stand in a Circle

Say: **Jesus is always humble. He always puts others ahead of himself.** Lead children to make one large circle.

Say: **Our circle doesn't have a beginning or an end. It goes on forever. That's like Jesus' love for us. His love never ends, and he'll always put us first because Jesus is humble. Let's thank Jesus.**

Lead children in a prayer, thanking Jesus for making himself humble and coming to the world as a baby because of his great big love.

Let the children know how happy you are that they joined you at church to celebrate Christmas. Invite them to come back to church next week.



ACTIVITY PAGES WITH A POINT A Humble Birth

[10 min]

Supplies

- “Jesus Is Born in a Stable” Coloring Page
- pencils
- crayons

Older Kids: Do an Activity Page

Say: **Jesus is the king of everything! He lived in heaven where it's perfect. But Jesus is humble, so he gave that up to be born as a baby on earth. Plus, he chose to be born in the humblest place. Let's find the way to the stable.**

Distribute the activity pages and pencils. Kids will identify the path that leads to the stable.

Ask: • **Which of these places would *you* most like to go spend a night? Why?**

- **Why do you think Jesus wasn't born in a palace or at least an inn?**

Say: **One reason Jesus came to earth was to show us what it looks like to be humble, so he didn't have a royal birth in a palace. Jesus is humble, so we're humble.**

Answer: Path D

Younger Kids: Color a Coloring Page

Distribute the coloring pages and crayons. Say: **Christmas is when we celebrate that Jesus was born! And Jesus is humble. That means he put us before himself and gave up special things in heaven to live on earth. Let's thank Jesus as we color a picture of him as a baby.**

Allow time for kids to color.