

MD KIDS CURRICULUM: LUKE

Week 1: Intro to Advent & Luke (Luke 1:1-4) Preschool Lesson

To the Teacher:

This is the first week of Advent, and a great time to kick off Luke! Advent means waiting for the arrival of something great. Remember, God's people have been waiting and waiting for the promise of the Messiah to come and rescue them from all the brokenness of the world: death, sickness, pain, hurting relationships, poverty, unjust rulers, and so much more. We want our kids to know that Jesus came to address all of that! This first section of Luke establishes why we can know and trust everything else written in the book.

Big Idea and Missio Basic: God has given us the story of Jesus so that we can know him more fully. We want to know God because we are his children.

Starter Ideas: You may choose to set up all or some of these activity centers for the children to play with or do as they arrive. Help children with the activities. Kids can stay in one center or travel to more than one.

1. Coloring page: Have the kids color a picture of a [magnifying glass](#) with Psalm 119:10a written on the handle: "I seek you with all my heart".
2. Free Play: Allow the kids to play with the classroom toys. (dolls, basketball, cars, tea party set, dress up, etc)
3. 'What's In the Box?'
 - o Cut out two holes in a box (shoobox or whatever you can find) big enough for kids to put their hands in. Place something inside of the box. Begin your lesson by asking a couple kids to see if they can guess what is in the box only by feeling and not seeing. Use this illustration to talk about Luke "carefully investigating" Jesus and speaking with eyewitnesses.

Circle Time: When all the kids have arrived and have had time to participate in at least one center, walk around the room and have each child follow you around the circle until you have a line with everyone in it. Lead them to the circle for prayer time. (Like playing follow the leader.)

Welcome Song: (To the tune of “Are You Sleeping?”)

Welcome, [Name]
Welcome, [Name]
Hear God’s Word
Hear God’s Word
We can trust in Jesus.
We can trust in Jesus.
Welcome, friends.
Welcome, friends.

Repeat until every kid and adult has been welcomed.

Jesus taught us to share peace. We share peace in a special way by repeating Jesus’ special words. Jesus used these words of peace when the disciples were scared. Jesus said, “Peace be with you.” We share the peace of Jesus. During worship we can say, “Peace be with you.”

Make sure kids are sitting in a circle on the floor. Kneel down in front of each person/kid and share God’s peace by shaking their hand and saying, “Peace be with you.” Remember to honor those kids who do not want to be touched! **Let’s all say Jesus’ words of peace. “Peace be with you.”** Repeat a few times before moving on to prayer.

Prayer Time:

Praying for Others: Ask the kids if they have anything that they would like to have prayed for. Share requests and then have someone pray for them. Remind the kids to pray for friends throughout the week.

Praying Together: (*touch your nose for ‘smell’, your ears for ‘hear’, etc.*)
*God, help us use our **ears** to **hear** you, our **eyes** to **see** you, and our **brains** to **understand** your word. Thank you Jesus that you live in a body like ours.*

Story: from Luke 1:1-4

[READ]

Many people have written about these things that have happened among us, and they were told to us by the people who saw it themselves; servants of the message. Since I have personally carefully investigated everything from the beginning, it seemed good for me to also write an account of it for you, my honorable friend Theophilus, so that you may know the certainty of the things you have been taught.

[Some Things to Point Out]

- Luke was a smart man (many believe he was a physician or doctor of some kind). He “carefully investigated” the life of Jesus, which shows us that we too can use the brains God has given us to investigate our faith, so that we could be certain of who Jesus is and what makes him different from every other person.
- Theophilus could trust Luke’s words because Luke “carefully investigated” Jesus, but also because of their friendship.
- God wants us to investigate Him! To “taste and see that [He] is good” (Psalm 34:8).

Snack Time: Let’s take a big stretch! Pause for kids to stretch and get the wiggles out. Clean the table for snack time. Help the kids wash hands together before delving into today’s snack. Sing songs while you wash hands. You can give them each a wipe or a squirt of hand sanitizer. Have the children have a seat at the table. Today’s snack is goldfish or veggie straws. Make sure none of the kids have an allergy to them. Begin passing out the napkins, goldfish or veggie straws, and cups of water.

BLESS Activity:

Listen for God to speak to you this week. Will you hear sounds of his creation outside (birds, rain, etc.)? Will you hear any stories about God? Will you hear songs about Him?

Optional playground time: If you have extra time please feel free to take the kids to the playground. Please be mindful that 2-4’s playground time does not start until 5:30PM.

Closing Prayer:

Dear God,

Thank you for your word, The Bible.

Thank you for sending Jesus in a real body so we can know you.

Help us to trust that your word is true.

Thank you God, Jesus and Holy Spirit.