# CHRISTMAS SHAPES

**TODAY'S BIBLE STORY:** The Angel and Mary • Luke 1:26-33,38
An angel tells Mary about Jesus.

**MEMORY VERSE:** *"God loved the world so much that he gave his only Son." John 3:16 (GNT)*

**KEY QUESTION:** How do we know God loves us?

**BOTTOM LINE:** God gave us Jesus.

**OPENING ACTIVITY:** Ring the Bell

**MEMORY VERSE ACTIVITY:** Memory Verse with Motions

**CRAFT:** Heart Angel or Angel with Wings

**CLOSING ACTIVITY**: You've Got Mail

# OPENING ACTIVITY | Ring the Bell

**What You Need:** desk bell

**WHAT YOU DO & SAY:**
***Before the Activity*:**

- Sit in a circle on the floor with the children. Place a desk bell in the center of the circle.
- *(Ring bell.)* "Hey, friends! Come sit in a circle with me. We are going to play a game with this bell." *(Ring the bell a few times and place it in the center of the circle.)*

***During the Activity:***

- Insert child's name each time you sing the words, and that child will crawl to the bell, ring it, and crawl back to their spot. Continue singing until every child's name has been said. Repeat as time and interest allow.
- *(Sing to the tune of "Farmer in the Dell.")*
  "The angel came to tell.
  The angel came to tell.
  **God gave us Jesus!** Yay!
  [Child's name] ring the bell!"
- *(Continue with each child. And repeat as time and interest allow.)* "That was fun! Thank you for playing that game with me. I like playing games that teach me that ***[Bottom Line]* God gave us Jesus."**

***After the Activity:***

- "Friends, we know God loves us because ***[Bottom Line]* God gave us Jesus**! So, when I ask you, **how do we know God loves us**, we can all say, ***[Bottom Line]* God gave us Jesus!** Let's try it! **How do we know God loves us? *[Bottom Line]* God gave us Jesus!** Yay! ***[Bottom Line]* God gave us Jesus!"** *(Ring bell.)*

Christmas Shapes | Week 1 | December 07, 2025
Adapted by Niki P/Venture Church/Nov. 2025

# MEMORY VERSE ACTIVITY | Memory Verse with Motions

**What You Need:** No supplies needed

**WHAT YOU DO & SAY:**
***Before the Activity*:**

- Say the Memory Verse and demonstrate the motions for the children.
- "Friends, come stand with me, and let me tell you our brand-new Memory Verse! Ready to hear it? It goes like this. 'God *(flat hand with thumb to forehead, pull down)* loved the world so much *(cross arms over chest)* that he gave his only Son,' *(rock arms like a baby)* John 3:16." *(Open hands like a book.)*

***During the Activity:***

- "Now, let's learn the motions. The first part of our verse says: 'God *(flat hand with thumb to forehead, pull down)* Put one hand up straight in front of you with your thumb almost touching your forehead like this. *(Straight, flat hand with thumb at your forehead.)* Then move your hand straight down in front of you like this, *(pull down)* and say, 'God.' *(Repeat with children.)* Great job!

- "The next part of our verse says: 'Loved the world so much.' *(Cross arms over chest.)* Give yourself a hug, *(hug yourself)* and say, 'loved the world so much.' *(Pause.)* Now let's put that together. 'God *(flat hand with thumb to forehead, pull down)* loved the world so much.' *(cross arms over chest)* Great job!

- "The next part of our verse says: 'That he gave his only Son.' *(Rock arms like a baby.)* Let's pretend we are holding a baby in our arms like this *(rock arms like a baby)* and say 'that he gave his only Son.' *(Repeat with children.)* Nice job! Now let's put that together. God *(flat hand with thumb to forehead, pull down)* loved the world so much *(cross arms over chest)* that he gave his only Son,' *(rock arms like a baby)* Super!

- "Now the last part is: John 3:16. *(Open hands like a book.)* Put your hands together in front of you and open them like you are opening a book *(open hands like a book)* and say: John 3:16. *(Repeat with children.)* Great job! I think we are ready to do it all together! Ready friends? 'God *(flat hand with thumb to forehead, pull down)* loved the world so much *(cross arms over chest)* that he gave his only Son,' *(rock arms like a baby)* John 3:16. *(Open hands like a book.)* Nice job. Let's do it again!" *(Repeat several times.)*

***After the Activity:***

- "The Bible teaches us that God loves us because ***[Bottom Line]*** **God gave us Jesus. How do we know God loves us?** ***[Bottom Line]*** **God gave us Jesus."**

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# CRAFT | Heart Angel

**What You Need:**

- ☐ "Heart Angel" Activity Page
- ☐ "Heart Angel Label" Activity Page
- ☐ Cardstock
- ☐ Avery® Labels #5160 or equivalent
- ☐ 5" heart cutouts
- ☐ Crayons
- ☐ Glue sticks
- ☐ 1/8-inch satin ribbon
- ☐ Clear tape
- ☐ Scissors

**WHAT YOU DO & SAY:**

***Before the Activity:***

- Cut ribbon in 6-inch lengths, one per child. Write each child's name on their paper.
- "Hello friends! Come join me at the table and let's create something super special to remember today's true story from the Bible."

***During the Activity:***

- Encourage children to color their angel body then glue the angel to the center of the heart. Ask children to turn their angel over and place their label on the heart. Create a loop with a piece of ribbon and tape to the back of the angel's head.
- "Today in our Bible Story, we learned that God sent an angel to give Mary a special message. Let's make an angel with this cutout *(hold up the angel cutout)* and this heart. *(Hold up the heart cutout.)* Hearts make us think of love, and we learned that God loves you and God loves me SO much. God gave us Jesus to be our friend forever! Glue your cutout to the heart. *(Pause.)* Great! Now you can color your angels and decorate them however you want! *(Pause.)* Wow! Super job! Now turn them over and add this label to the heart. *(Pause.)* Now I'll tape a loop of ribbon to the back so you can hang your special angels like a Christmas ornament."

***After the Activity:***

- "The true story of Christmas begins with God's love for us. God loved you even before you were born! God loves us SO much; God gave us Jesus to be our friend forever!
- "It all started a long time ago when God sent an angel to give Mary a special message. Mary was afraid, but the angel said, 'Do not be afraid, Mary. I have good news! God wants you to know that you're going to have a baby. The baby is God's Son, and you will call him Jesus.'"
- "When God sent the angel to Mary, God showed us how much He loves all of us by sending His Son Jesus. And that is what we celebrate at Christmas! ***[Bottom Line]*** **God gave us Jesus. How do we know God loves us?** ***[Bottom Line]*** **God gave us Jesus."**

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## **CRAFT | Angel with Wings** (optional craft)

**What You Need:**

- Muffin/Cupcake Liners – Regular Size, Various Colors
- Muffin/Cupcake Liners – Mini Size
- Coffee Filters
- Construction Paper
- Glue Sticks

- First, cut the regular-sized muffin liners in half. Arrange supplies on a table for kids to choose the colors they want to use.
- Have each child choose one sheet of construction paper, one coffee filter, two muffin-liner wings, one mini muffin liner and a glue stick.
- Step One: Glue the mini muffin liner to the construction paper.
- Step Two: Glue the wings to the page. Be sure to place the wings with the flat edge up.
- Step Three: Fold the coffee filter in half. And then in half again. Glue it to the construction paper.
- It helps if you put a little glue between each layer.
- That's it! The kids can get creative with which colors they use, as well as the placement of each element. It's a simple but fun craft for Christmas.



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## BIBLE STORY

***Open Bible for children to see, then set it down.***

"The true story of Christmas begins with God's love for us.

"Do you know that God loves you? He does! Give yourself a big hug! *(Hug yourself.)*

"God loved you even before you were born! And because God loves you and God loves me SO much, God gave us Jesus to be our friend forever!

"It all started a long time ago when God sent a special message to a young woman named Mary.

"Now, how do you think God sent this special message to Mary? Do you think God sent the special message with a letter in the mail? *(Shake your head 'no.')*

"No. Do you think God sent the special message with a video call? *(Shake your head 'no.')*

"No! God sent the message in an even more amazing way. God sent an angel!

"Whoa! Look at Mary's face. How do you think Mary felt when she saw the angel? Mary was afraid.

"Everyone, show me your afraid face. *(Make an afraid face.)*

"Yes, Mary was afraid!

"But the angel said, *"Do not be afraid, Mary" (Luke 1:30 NIV)*.

"Can you say that with me?"

**CHILDREN and LEADER:** "Do not be afraid, Mary."

**LEADER:** "The angel had a very special message to tell Mary, and it was GREAT news!

"The angel told Mary that she was going to have a baby. The angel said: "The baby will be God's Son, and you will call him Jesus."

"That was great news!

"God loves us so much He gave us His Son Jesus. **How do we know God loves us?"**

**CHILDREN and LEADER: *[Bottom Line]* "God gave us Jesus!"**

**LEADER:** "Yes, ***[Bottom Line]* God gave us Jesus,** and that is what we celebrate at Christmas. ***[Bottom Line]* God gave us Jesus.**

*(Pick up and close Bible.) "Our story time is over, but we're not through. Let's talk to God because God loves you!"*

**PRAYER -** Dear God, thank you for giving us Your Son, Jesus. Help us to celebrate Jesus every day. We pray in Jesus' name. Amen.

# CLOSING ACTIVITY | You've Got Mail

**What You Need:**

- ☐ Paper
- ☐ Envelopes
- ☐ Square-shaped stamps
- ☐ Washable ink pads
- ☐ Toy mailbox
- ☐ Washable markers
- ☐ Baby wipes

**WHAT YOU DO & SAY:**

***Before the Activity:***

- Set out all Items on the table. Put the mailbox in a separate area of the room.
- "Friends, I love getting mail. Sometimes special messages are sent in the mail!
- Have you ever gotten anything in the mail? *(Pause for responses.)* It's fun to get mail! I have all the items to make a special letter for you to mail in that mailbox over there."

***During the Activity:***

- Encourage children to make mail and deliver it to the mailbox.
- "We have paper to write on, envelopes to put the letter in, and stamps to put on the envelope. Let's make mail! *(Pause.)* Wow, I really love the picture you drew on your letter. Fold it up and put it in the envelope. *(Pause.)* Great! Now your envelope needs a stamp. You can use any of these stamps. *(Pause.)* Go put your letter in the mailbox. *(Pause.)* You sent your special message!"

***After the Activity:***

- "In our true story from the Bible, we're going to hear how God sent a very special message to a very young woman named Mary. Are you ready to hear our Bible Story? *(Pause for responses.)* Me too! Let's go!"