

Group Time Guide

Supplies Needed: Christmas Around the World Picture Cards and Descriptions

1. Introductions

Circle Up: Have Kid-Os sit down in a circle and give you a "thumbs up" when they are ready to listen. Encourage each Kid-O to say their name as you give them hand sanitizer. Then pass out a snack to each child who is able to have one.

2. Discussion Questions

- Who did the angels tell about the birth of Jesus? (Shepherds)
- What did the shepherds do when they heard about Jesus? (They went to see Jesus and then told everyone about him.)

3. Hands-On Option

Say This: When people feel joy, they show it in a lot of different ways. Christmas is a time to celebrate and remember the gift of joy God gave us when he sent Jesus into the world. People celebrate Christmas in many different ways around the world. We're going to play a game where we get to guess how different people celebrate!

Do This: Play a game of "Christmas Around the World!" Place all the picture cards face up in the middle of the circle. Then, read the descriptions of how people celebrate Christmas one at a time. Have Kid-Os match the correct picture to the description.

The Point: God gives each one of us the gift of joy. Joy is a feeling of happiness that never has to go away. During Christmas, we celebrate the joy of Jesus' birth!

4. Big Idea, Memory Verse, and Prayer

Do This: Practice the Big Idea and Memory Verse with the kids.

Memory Verse: James 1:17 – "Every good and perfect gift is from God."

Big Idea: God gives me joy.

Do This: Encourage kids to talk about what they learned with their grown-ups.

Do This: Pray! "Dear God, we love you. Thank you for loving us. Thank you for the gift of joy. Help us share that joy with others. Amen."