





## FOLLOWERS – LESSON PLAN

Age	Term	Mod.	Module Theme	Module Title	Lesson Number and Title
5	1	1	Faith	Christ is born	12: Nativity Part 2

Use the syllabus framework to complete above. Infants: 20 minutes; Juniors: 30 minutes; Middles & Seniors: 45 minutes (Mod. = Module Number, Module Theme - in the heading, Module Title - uppercase in the cell, Lesson Title - lowercase in the cell)

							
Verbal V <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Logical L	Spatial S <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Kinaesthetic K <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Musical M <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Intra - personal P1	Inter - personal P2	Natural N

Tick the appropriate box(es) above [ copy this: ] for the modes of learning being used in this session.

**Prayer:** Gracious, loving and merciful God, on this Christmas Day, as the light of your Word shines in our hearts, as we are reminded of the gift of life and faith, we open ourselves up to your Spirit and offer this prayer of thanksgiving. Amen

**Starter:** *Seeing stars.* Children have fun collecting bright shining stars (previously hidden in the classroom by the teacher) while learning how they too can shine for Jesus. After collecting the star children will take turns to say what they would like to offer to baby Jesus.

**Learning objectives:** To retell the story of the Nativity of our Lord by reading the icon and learn what represents for our Christian life. To create a Nativity scene and act out the story of the Nativity.

### Core Activities and Learning

Children will be told that they will be learning more about the Nativity of our Lord Jesus Christ and that they will be creating a Nativity scene and when this will be ready they will act out the story. The teacher will encourage children to retell the story by reading the icon offering help and guiding children to present the narrative in the right order.

The Nativity scene is meant to support the retelling of the story, being used to illustrate Christmas books and sometimes the pieces are just used for pretend play. The scene will be either hung on or leaned against a wall or even placed on the table. Materials needed: 1 large sheet of hard cardboard, 1 large sheet of felt to cover the board (needs to be stapled to the board), acrylic craft felt of different colours to create the figurines.

As this project may take a number of hours to complete the teacher will make the patterns and do the hand stitching details (optional); the stable and trees are glued down on the board. Each piece is backed in an additional piece of felt, for added durability, and to keep the children from picking at the threading.

Essential to the story of Nativity are:

- Baby Jesus – wrapped in swaddling clothes laid in a cradle.
- The Virgin Mary – Jesus' mother, is usually shown dressed in blue and white garments.
- The Righteous Joseph - Jesus' fatherly caretaker, usually has a bearded face and wears long, dark colored robes.
- Angels - Can be your typical angel with wings, the angel is usually seated higher up than the rest of the figurines
- Shepherds – They followed the star that guided them to the babe in the manger. Long robes, shepherd's hook, and some sheep usually make their presence known.
- Three kings – These wise men came to worship Jesus and bring him gifts shortly after his birth. Precious metals and stones adorn their brightly coloured garments.
- Animals – Usually camels, donkeys, and sheep, the animals join the scene since Mary and Joseph couldn't find any place to stay in the inns in Bethlehem.
- The star – Bright yellow star, placed above the cave.

The teacher will invite children to explore the felt figurines they will be using to create the Nativity scene. Children will be encouraged to act out the story of the Nativity and display the figurines made out of felt as the story progresses.

The teacher will reiterate the message of Christmas: the baby Jesus we see in the manger is fully God who came to earth to die so that we could have forgiveness of our sins, so that we would receive the greatest gift of all, the eternal life.

Children will be invited to sing a carol of their choice. (*Away in a manger, While Shepherds watched their flocks by night, Once in royal David's city*).

### Resources

Bible for Young People, icon of Nativity (nativity-lord.jpg), mystery bag (plastic/ soft toys or figurines that could create a Nativity scene, such as the Virgin Mary, baby Jesus, the Righteous Joseph, the shepherds, the angels, the wise men), large sheet of hard cardboard, large sheet of felt, acrylic craft felt of different colours, patterns to create the figurines

### Review

In the next session ask one of the children to recall what we have learnt this Sunday.

### Follow Up

In the next session we will learn more about the Christmas traditions.