

# “The Perfect Present” A Christmas Lesson

## Main Focus:

Jesus is the greatest gift  
to the world!



## Power Verse:

“For this is how God loved the world:  
He gave his one and only Son, so that  
everyone who believes in him will  
not perish but have eternal life.”  
— John 3:16



## Whatchagaddaknow:

“Jesus Is The Greatest Gift

## LEADER'S INFO

One of the most exciting moments of Christmas is the opening of presents. Kids wait all year, hoping to find that “perfect” present waiting for them under the tree. There’s a special joy that comes when they tear off the wrapping paper and find something they’ve been hoping for. While many gifts can make us happy for a while, only one gift has the power to change our lives forever.

That gift is Jesus! God planned from the very beginning to send Jesus to Earth, not just to be a baby, but to grow up and show us how much God loves us. Jesus is the **perfect present** because He was given to us out of God’s great love, even though we didn’t deserve it.

In this lesson, we’re going to learn about why Jesus is the greatest gift ever given. As we learn from the story of the first Christmas, the kids will be reminded of just how special and perfect Jesus is!



## “The Spark” Intro Video

“What Is The Perfect Present?”



## “Whatchagaddaknow” Video

Alexis teaches “Whatchagaddaknow”



## Character Skit

“Gary, The Gift Guru”



## Offering Time



## Game Time!

“Mitten Madness”



## Bible Story

“The Christmas Story”



## Power Verse

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## Call To Action

“The Perfect Present”



## Rewind!

Review Game



## Small Group Experience

## Main Focus:

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to the world!



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everyone who believes in him will  
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## Whatchagaddaknow:

“Jesus Is The Greatest Gift  
To The World!”

## Lesson Materials Needed:

### “The Spark” Intro Video

- “The Spark” Intro Video

### “Whatchagaddaknow” Video

- “Whatchagaddaknow” Teaching Video
- “Whatchagaddaknow” Trigger Video

### Character Skit

- “Gary, The Gift Guru” Theme Graphic/Music

### Offering Time

- “Offering Time” Bumper Video

### Game Time!

- “Game Time!” Bumper Video
- Two pair of oven mitts
- Two wrapped gifts
- A table

### Bible Story

- “The Christmas Story” Graphics

### Power Verse

- Power Verse Graphic

### Call To Action

- “The Perfect Present” Graphics
- A Large Christmas Gift-Wrapped Box
- A “1st Place” Ribbon
- A Broken Toy

### Rewind!

- “REWIND!” Bumper Video
- “REWIND!” Graphics

### Small Group Experience

- Bible Story Pictures
- Several Bowls
- At Least 5 Candy Canes Per Bowl
- A Way To Keep Time
- John 3:16 Print Piece
- Pencils, Crayons, Or Markers

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### Game Time!

“Mitten Madness”

### Bible Story

“The Christmas Story”

### Power Verse

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his one and only Son, so that everyone who  
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### Small Group Experience



## **Introduction to “The Spark” Intro Video**

**Leader:** Hey, kids! Merry Christmas! Are you ready for an awesome journey to learn all about Christmas? I don’t know about you, but I absolutely love this time of year!

I have a question for you - how many of you LOVE getting presents at Christmas? (*allow response*) Do any of you ever make “wish lists” where you list all of the things you hope you receive at Christmas? (*allow response*)

It’s fun to make “wish lists” and hope we receive the “perfect” present at Christmas time. Well, today we are going to find out exactly what “The Perfect Present” really is.

To give you a hint, I want you to watch this video...

**(play “The Spark - Intro Video”)**

**Leader:** Jesus left Heaven to come to Earth and made a way for us to spend eternity with Him in Heaven. When God gave His Son, Jesus, to the world that first Christmas morning...Jesus became “The Perfect Present” - the greatest gift the world could ever hope for.

Today, you are going to learn all about what makes Jesus “The Perfect Present” - at Christmas **and** every single day of the year.

Right now, it’s time to find out “Whatchagaddaknow.”

**(play “Whatchagaddaknow” Teaching Video)**



## **CHARACTER SKIT**

**Character: “Gary, The Gift Guru”** *(An over-the-top, slightly eccentric character who believes he is the ultimate expert on gift-giving. He wears a Santa hat that’s a bit too big, glasses, and a bright Christmas outfit. He carries around a giant bag filled with quirky, unconventional gifts and is always ready to share his “wisdom” on the art of gift-giving.)*

**Gary:** *(Enters looking very festive and excited)* Ho ho ho! Welcome, my gift-giving enthusiasts! I am Gary, the Gift Guru, your whimsical wiz of wrapped wonders! Today, we’re diving deep into the art of gifting! And let me tell you, it’s more than just ribbons and bows!

**Leader:** Oh my! You are quite a character aren’t you? Now I’ve heard it all!

**Gary:** *(Leans in)* Did you know that gift-giving is like a dance? It’s all about rhythm and connection! *(He starts doing a silly little dance, shuffling from side to side.)*

**Leader:** You are pretty good on your feet, Gary! I have very little rhythm, but I can try. *(Tries to dance like Gary)*

**Gary:** *(Still dancing)* When you give a gift, you’re not just handing over an item; you’re sharing a piece of your heart! *(To leader)* You’re doing great!

**Leader:** *(Still dancing)* Hey, I think I’m getting the hang of this now! I think I might be a better dancer than you!

**Gary:** You keep telling yourself that, my friend! *(Suddenly stops dancing and pulls a rubber chicken out of his bag)* Behold! The ultimate gift of laughter! But remember, my friends, laughter is just the cherry on top! You’ve got to dig deeper!

**Leader:** What are you talking about? Digging deeper? Do you mean deeper in your pockets for more money to buy better gifts?

**Gary:** Oh goodness, no! *(Leaning in to leader)* What does this chicken represent?

**Leader:** Hmmm. What can a rubber chicken represent? Bad chicken nuggets?

**Gary:** No! This rubber chicken is all about letting go of seriousness! Sometimes, you need a reminder that life needs to be a little silly! Right kids? *(Starts clucking and flapping his arms like a chicken)*

**Leader:** That looks fun! Who has the best chicken impression?

**Gary:** Those are great! Now, just like this chicken, we must embrace the absurd things in life! But wait! *(Pulls out a glittery lava lamp)*

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## **CHARACTER SKIT** *(continued)*

**Leader:** Wow! *(To the kids)* Who knows what this is?

**Gary:** *(Shaking the lamp)* Ah! The mesmerizing lava lamp! Perfect for the peaceful people in your life! But remember, my friends, the lava represents our thoughts and emotions! Sometimes, they bubble up and, sometimes, they settle down. Life is full of ups and downs, but when we learn to flow with it, we become experts in the art of being present! *(leans in, whispering)* And that’s where the true gift lies!

**Leader:** So, Gary, out of all of this gifting you are talking about, what is the greatest gift you have ever given?

**Gary:** That’s the thing! None of my gifts are the “greatest.” They are just simple things to make people smile!

**Leader:** Well, did you know that God gave us the perfect gift?

**Gary:** God gives gifts? I would love to see His gifts! And His wrapping skills! I bet they are PERFECT! Crisp lines, a delicate bow on top, and...

**Leader:** *(Cutting Gary off)* Gary! His greatest gift was the gift of His Son, Jesus! It’s the reason we celebrate Christmas in the first place. Without that gift, this world would be in terrible shape!

**Gary:** Oh, I see! Jesus is God’s gift, and He was “wrapped” in a cloth and laid in a manger. I see where you are going with this!

**Leader:** Jesus is a free gift to the whole world! Anyone can have Him if they receive Him. We did not deserve Jesus, but God gave Him to us anyway!

**Gary:** That really IS the perfect present! Now, remember my gift-giving friends: the best gifts come from the heart! It’s not about the price tag; it’s about the thought, connection, and joy we have in giving it! Just as God gave us Jesus, you can go and be a gift to others and share the reason you really celebrate Christmas!

**Leader:** That’s right! Christmas isn’t about the presents you get under the tree. God has already given us the most perfect gift of all!

**Gary:** Suddenly I want to tell everyone about the greatest gift of all! Forget the gifts in my bag, we have been given something so much better! And may your lives be filled with laughter, love, and a sprinkle of silliness! Keep giving and keep dancing! *(Dances as he leaves)*

*(EXITS AS HIS THEME MUSIC PLAYS)*



## **GAME TIME!**

### **“Mitten Madness”**

#### **Items Needed For Game:**

Two pair of oven mitts; two wrapped gifts; a table

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#### **Preparation:**

Choose one boy and one girl to compete in this game. Wrap two gift boxes to look close to the same.

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#### **How To Play:**

Each player has to put oven mitts on both hands. When the leader says “Go,” the players must attempt to unwrap the present on the table in front of them. Whichever player completely unwraps their present first using **ONLY** their “mitten” hands wins!



# **Bible Story**

## **“The Christmas Story”**

### **Materials Needed:**

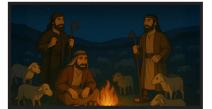
“The Christmas Story” Graphics; begin with the slide that says “Bible Story”; follow the instructions below, changing the slides to follow along with the story (*as shown*)

### **Preparation:**

Familiarize yourself with the story in Luke 2:4-20; have your open Bible in your hands as you tell the story

### **The Story:**

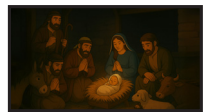
Today’s Bible Story is one that teaches all about how Jesus became “The Perfect Present.” It all starts with a group of shepherds taking care of their sheep out in the middle of a field late at night. (*show pic*) As you can imagine, they were probably as bored as could be. This was something they did a lot. Taking care of sheep can be quite boring sometimes. But they were about to get the surprise of their lives.



(*show pic*) Suddenly, up in the sky, there appeared a huge group of bright, shining angels. They spoke to the shepherds, “Do not be afraid. We bring you good news that will bring great joy to ALL people.” The shepherds were amazed by what they saw. Then, the angels began to sing, “Glory to God in the highest.” They told the shepherds all about the baby, Jesus, who had just been born in the town of Bethlehem. This baby, Jesus, was the Son of God who had come to Earth to take away the sins of all people.



Then, just as quickly as the angels had appeared, they disappeared. The shepherds didn’t know what to make of all of this. (*show pic*) They looked at each other and then said, “Let’s go to Bethlehem and see this thing that has happened!” They ran as fast as they could until they reached the town of Bethlehem.



The shepherds went straight to the stable where Mary and Joseph were. Mary and Joseph had to stay in the stable because there was no room in the inn. After all, the city was full of people because everyone had traveled there in order to pay their taxes. (*show pic*) The shepherds arrived to see Jesus lying in the manger. They gathered all around to see Jesus, God’s gift to the world, and worshiped Him. They learned that day that God sent His Son as a gift to the world to save people from their sins.

In your lesson today, you are going to learn that on that very first Christmas Day, God gave the greatest gift that ever could be given. He gave His Son to the world. Jesus is “The Perfect Present” for every person to open their hearts and receive. What a wonderful Christmas gift!





## **Call To Action**

### **“The Perfect Present”**

#### **Materials Needed:**

“The Perfect Present” Graphics; a large Christmas gift-wrapped box; a “1st place” ribbon; a broken toy

#### **Preparation:**

Begin with the slide titled “The Perfect Present”



#### **The Message:** *(title slide)*

Well, it is almost Christmas day. Do you have a present you are hoping to get this Christmas? *(allow a few kids to share something they hope to receive)* We all have an idea of what we think would be “The Perfect Present.” *(hold up the gift-wrapped box)* Maybe it is a toy you’ve wanted for so long, or a game you can’t wait to play. I want you to imagine that feeling you would feel opening that “perfect” present on Christmas Day – the excitement, the joy! But today, we’re going to talk about a gift that’s even better than any toy or game you could ever receive. This gift is from God, and it’s the best gift ever given – Jesus!

You see...



#### **God Planned The Perfect Present** *(slide)*

When God created the world, He created a place without sin. He made a man, Adam, and a woman, Eve, and placed them in the Garden of Eden. Everything was going wonderfully until they were tempted by the devil and committed the first sin. From that point on, human beings were born into a world of sin. In fact, the Bible says that ALL of us - you, me, everybody - have sinned and deserve punishment. That punishment is death - separated from God forever.

But God didn’t want us to be punished. He wanted us to be forgiven. So, He came up with a plan. He would send someone - a PERFECT someone - to take our place and be punished for us! He planned to send that “perfect” person - who just so happened to be His one and only Son, Jesus.

Now, all of this sounds great, doesn’t it. There is only one problem...



#### **We Didn’t Deserve The Gift** *(slide)*

Remember - we are sinners. We have all disobeyed God’s laws and deserve to be punished for our sin. We didn’t and don’t deserve the “perfect present” that God gave us. Our Power Verse says it best, “For this is how

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## **Call To Action** *(Continued)*

God loved the world: He **gave** his one and only Son, so that everyone who believes in him will **not perish** but have eternal life.” The word “perish” means “to die.” We deserved to die because of our sin. We didn’t deserve the gift of God’s Son.

Some things in life we deserve. We work hard and earn them. *(hold up the 1st place ribbon)* Maybe you have earned a 1st place ribbon for doing well in school or sports. You earned it. You deserved it. But there was nothing any of us could do to earn the gift of God’s forgiveness. The only way to receive His forgiveness was for God to send “the perfect present” of His Son, Jesus. God gave Jesus to us simply because He loves us, not because we earned it or deserved it.

Jesus came as a baby, but He grew to be a man. He never sinned - not one time! He was truly “the perfect present.” And - He became the perfect sacrifice for our sins. Jesus died on the cross so we would not have to die in punishment for our sins. WOW! What a beautiful gift!

The best part is...

**Jesus Is the Gift That Lasts Forever** *(slide)*



Think about some of the presents you’ve received for Christmas in the past. Do they last forever? Nope! In fact sometimes you play with your presents on Christmas and before the day is even over *(hold up the broken toy)* they break and are not fun anymore. Maybe you got an outfit you really loved for Christmas and you wore it for months...then you grew and the clothes don’t fit anymore.

Earthly gifts can wear out or get lost. But God’s gift of Jesus is different – He lasts forever! Jesus came to give us eternal life, which means that we can live with God forever if we put our trust in Him and ask Him to forgive us our sins. God’s love for us lasts forever. Jesus is “the perfect present” that never breaks, wears out, or fades away.

*(hold up the gift-wrapped box)* Imagine you have a beautiful gift sitting in front of you. It’s wrapped perfectly with a shiny bow. But if you never open it, you won’t get to enjoy what’s inside, right? God’s gift of Jesus is the same way. We have to receive Him and believe in Him to experience His love and forgiveness. Jesus wants to be with us and help us every day. All you have to do is open your heart to receive “the perfect present!”

**ALTAR RESPONSE:** *(play soft music)*

Pray with the children who want to accept Jesus’ gift of eternal life and forgiveness of sin. Pray that God will help them see just how amazing this “perfect present” really is. Spend a few moments worshiping Jesus and celebrating that He came as a baby that first Christmas morning as “the perfect present” for the whole world.



**Materials Needed:**

“REWIND!” Graphics; “REWIND!” Bumper Video

**Preparation:**

Play the “REWIND!” Bumper Video; Begin with the slide titled “REWIND!”; there is a slide for each question

**1. Whatchagaddaknow today?**

**Answer:** “Jesus Is The Greatest Gift To The World!”

**2. Where were the shepherds at the beginning of our Bible Story today?**

**Answer:** Out In The Fields

**3. What appeared suddenly to the shepherds while they watched their sheep?**

**Answer:** A Choir Of Angels

**4. Who did the angels say had just been born?**

**Answer:** Jesus

**5. Were the shepherds allowed to visit the baby, Jesus?**

**Answer:** Yes

**6. According to our lesson today, “God \_\_\_\_\_ The Perfect Present.”**

**Answer:** Planned

**7. According to our lesson today, “We Didn’t \_\_\_\_\_ The Gift.”**

**Answer:** Deserve

**8. According to our lesson today, “Jesus Is The Gift That Lasts \_\_\_\_\_.”**

**Answer:** Forever

**9. Did God send Jesus for everyone?**

**Answer:** Yes

**10. Where was our Power Verse found?**

**Answer:** John 3:16