

# ESCAPE TO EGYPT



## TRANSITION/GROUP TIME

### SNACK

Include the kids in the distribution of the snack. Ask for volunteers to pray. Lead the kids to clean up after the snack. Thank them for their help.

### MOVE TO GROUP TIME

Flash the room lights. Encourage the kids to walk very quickly to the group-time area. Thank the kids for obeying and walking so quickly.

### INTRODUCE THE BIBLE STORY

#### ESCAPE TO EGYPT—BASED ON MATTHEW 2:13-23

- Say: “We had to quickly get up and move to our group-time area. In the Bible story, Joseph was asked to do something very quickly.”

### SUMMARIZE THE BIBLE STORY

*(In advance, read the story from the Bible and the Kids Activity Page. During the session, open the Bible and tell or summarize the Bible story.)*

- Sometime after Jesus’ birth, an angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream. The angel told Joseph, “Get up! Take Jesus and His mother, Mary, and flee to Egypt. Stay there until I tell you to leave.”
- The angel told this to Joseph because King Herod planned to harm Baby Jesus. Joseph obeyed God. That night, Joseph took Mary and Jesus and escaped to Egypt.
- After King Herod died, an angel again appeared in a dream to Joseph. The angel told Joseph it was safe to leave and to take Jesus back to Israel.
- Joseph again obeyed God. He took Mary and Jesus back to the land of Israel. They settled in the region of Galilee in the town called Nazareth.

### REVIEW THE BIBLE STORY

- Who appeared to Joseph in a dream?
- What did the angel tell Joseph to do? Why?
- Where did Joseph take Mary and Baby Jesus?
- Think: Why did Joseph obey God so quickly?

### EMPHASIZE THE LIFE POINT

- Tell the kids God’s plan cannot be stopped.

|                        |
|------------------------|
| ROOM                   |
| YOUR TEACHING PARTNERS |
| DATE OF USE            |

### LEVEL OF BIBLICAL LEARNING

Jesus is God’s one and only Son.

### LIFE POINT

God’s plan cannot be stopped.

### UNIT VERSE

Jesus was born in Bethlehem. Matthew 2:1

### WEEKLY VERSE

God’s plan will happen. Proverbs 19:21

## SING TOGETHER

Sing to the tune of “Here We Go Round the Mulberry Bush”:

*Jesus was born in Bethlehem,  
In Bethlehem, in Bethlehem.  
Jesus was born in Bethlehem,  
As God planned for Jesus.*

*Joseph cared for the baby boy,  
The baby boy, the baby boy.  
Joseph cared for the baby boy,  
And kept Him safe and sound.*

## SAY THE BIBLE VERSE

Say Proverbs 19:21 aloud. Ask the kids to take a deep breath, and then repeat the verse as quickly as they can in one breath.

## PRAY

Thank God for sending Jesus to earth as a part of His special plan.

## BIBLE-LEARNING ACTIVITIES

**Emphasize: God’s plan cannot be stopped.**

- 1. Write in a salt tray.** Pour a shallow layer of salt into a small tray. Print the words of Proverbs 19:21 on a sheet of paper. Show the salt tray and verse to a child. Read the verse aloud. Encourage the child to write the verse, or a word from the verse in the salt using his fingers. As the child writes, help him to say the verse. Let kids take turns writing in the salt or provide additional trays with salt.
- 2. Drive vehicles.** Using painter’s tape, invite kids to help you create roads for vehicles on a tabletop or the floor. After the roads have been created, provide kids with several small vehicles. As they push vehicles along the roads, ask them to tell you where Joseph took Mary and Baby Jesus. Remind kids that God protected Jesus, so He could grow up and fulfill God’s plan.
- 3. Care for baby dolls.** Provide kids with baby dolls, a doll bed, rocking chair, and other baby care items. Encourage boys and girls to take care of the baby dolls. Suggest that they get a doll ready for bed by changing it into pajamas,

feeding it a bottle, reading it a Bible story, rocking it to sleep, and putting the doll to bed. As kids play, say that Jesus came to earth as a baby who needed His parents to take care of Him. Remind them that Jesus was a special baby who was God’s own Son.

- 4. Create a baby Jesus verse craft.** Cut a jumbo craft stick in half making a half stick for each child. Provide each child with a craft stick half, strips of soft cloth, markers, glue, an index card, and an adhesive magnet. Guide kids to draw a baby’s face on the rounded end of the stick. Show them how to wrap the cloth around the craft stick creating a “blanket” for the baby. Help kids write the Weekly Verse on one side of the index card. Glue the craft stick baby onto the card next to the verse. Adhere the magnet to the card’s back. Suggest that kids place their cards on their refrigerators at home.

## CLEAN UP

Clean up the room by playing “Teacher, May I?” Instruct the kids to take turns saying: “Teacher, may I \_\_\_\_\_?” and naming the job they would like to do in the blank. After they ask you if they can do a specific job, you are to answer them: “Yes, you may,” and then guide them to do the job.

## PLAY THREE CORNERS

Designate one corner of the room as “Nazareth,” one corner as “Bethlehem,” and one as “Egypt.” Gather the kids in the middle of the room. Explain that you will close your eyes and count to 10. While you are counting, kids are to quietly walk to one of the three corners of their choice. When you have finished counting, say one of the names of the corners and tell all of the kids standing in that corner to sit down on the floor. Open your eyes and see who is seated on the floor. Whoever is seated sits with you in the middle of the room. Play several rounds until only one person is left standing.

## DISMISS

As parents arrive to pick up their child, help the child gather his belongings and crafts. Ask the child to say the Weekly Verse with you: “God’s plan will happen. Proverbs 19:21.”