

God Sends His Son

By RLD Editorial Team

for use as
STEP 1**Lesson 3****Focus:**

Message delivered:
Jesus came to save
us.

Lesson 3**Bible Basis:**

Matthew 1:18—
2:12; Luke 2:6-20

Lesson 3**Memory Verse:**

[The angel said,] “You are to give
him the name Jesus, because he
will save his people from their sins.”
—Matthew 1:21

Students will watch a video about puppies being rescued as they consider how our greatest need for saving is from sin.

Materials:

- Internet access

Watch this video with your class and then discuss the following questions [1:53]:

Watch from 0:08 to 0:58, then from 1:07 to 1:53 (language warning).

Senior Citizens Come Together To Rescue Seven Tiny Puppies | The Dodo

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FIMSu4G4fpM>

- **Have you or your family ever had to rescue a stray animal before?** (Answers will vary.)

The puppies, who would not have survived without help and rescue, encountered multiple inspiring people, including the senior citizens helping with the rescue and those willing to foster the puppies. They all demonstrated compassion and kindness towards the puppies.

- **Like puppies, we can sometimes feel helpless, too! What do people and puppies have in common?** (People still must rely on others to help in times of crisis. Many young people don't have the life experience to solve big problems. They need help!)

- **Although this example was about puppies, there are many times when people need help too. From what kinds of dangers might people need to be rescued?** (Answers will vary but might include fires, accidents, being lost, negative thoughts, addictions, fears, abuse, etc.)

- **Who are the people we count on to rescue or save us from harm?** (Answers might include: parents, fire fighters, police officers, teachers, pastors, doctors, paramedics, etc.)

➤ **When have you been rescued or helped out of a difficult situation? Who helped you?**
(Answers will vary.)

There are times when we realize our need to be rescued, but at other times, the need to be rescued isn't as apparent. Sometimes we are in need of help, and we just don't know it. Or maybe we don't want to admit the need. It might even be that it's not a 911-type of rescue, and we don't know who to turn to for help.

As we study this lesson, we are reminded that many years ago Jesus, the Son of God, was sent to earth, born as a baby. He was sent with a specific purpose. Let's see how that purpose relates to us, and our need for a rescue.

(Continue on to Steps 2 and 3 in your teacher's guide; your Step 4 appears below.)

Lesson 3 / December 21, 2025

God Sends His Son

for use as
STEP 4 **Lesson 3**
Focus:

Message delivered:
Jesus came to save
us.

Lesson 3
Bible Basis:

Matthew 1:18—2:12;
Luke 2:6-20

Lesson 3
Memory Verse:

[The angel said,] "You are to give him
the name Jesus, because he will save
his people from their sins."
—Matthew 1:21

Materials:

- Internet access
- Chenille wires (also known as pipe cleaners)
- Scissors
- Pony beads (red, white, and green)
- Optional: Faceted beads (red), low temp glue gun/glue sticks, yarn

(If your class is meeting online, invite students to bring supplies with them to class.) Before class, check out the craft tutorial found here in order to familiarize yourself with the activity. It always helps to make a sample if possible. Note that the tutorial suggests gluing a red faceted bead to the end of the chenille wire and then another one to the other end once the children have strung the pony beads onto the chenille wires. This is definitely an option, but it can be avoided by simply turning up the wire on each end to keep the beads from falling off. Our version includes green beads.

DIY Candy Cane Christmas Ornaments Kids Craft

<https://jenniemaesterson.com/diy-candy-cane-ornaments-kids-craft/>

During December, a large portion of the world turns their attention to the birth of our Savior. This could be the perfect time to share with someone who doesn't know Jesus not only that He was God come to earth to live among us, but also why He came, and what He does for us today.

Let's take a familiar Christmas ornament and make a reminder that Jesus came to save us. Make one for your household and make another for a friend who does not know Jesus. These decorations can be hung anywhere as a constant reminder that Jesus is our Savior, not just in December, but all year around.

Distribute supplies (or invite students to have them ready at home).

Shape the chenille wire after it is covered in beads like a candy cane or shepherd's staff. The top of the cane hangs over a branch on the tree.

Bend the top point of the wire, so the beads will not fall off the wire (or glue a faceted bead to each end once your students have filled it with pony beads). Fill the wire with beads: green, red, white; green, red, white, until it is full. Bend the bottom of the wire up to keep the beads from falling off.

The green bead represents a symbol of life; Jesus came to earth and lived among us and offers us eternal life. The red bead represents the fact that Jesus was born so He could die for us, shedding His blood to pay for our sins. The white bead represents that Jesus made us clean before God, spotless and forgiven.

When you hang the ornament at home, and when you give the decoration to a friend, explain what the colors of the beads represent. Use yarn to create a loop to hang this ornament as a decoration anywhere that you will be reminded that Jesus came to save us.

Allow time for the students to practice telling each other what the beads represent, so they will remember for later.

While the students are working, you may want to play the following [2:26]:

Hark! The Herald Angels Sing

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Z67EXPODXO8>

Remind your preteens that you are available if any of them want to talk to you privately about how to know Jesus as their Savior. Help on how to share the gospel with this age group is found in your teacher's guide.

Close in prayer thanking God for sending Jesus to be our Savior, even when we did not know or understand how great our need for Him was or is. Pray for those who do not know Jesus; pray for their salvation.

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