

Lesson 3

The Temple Testimonies Luke 2:1–7, 22–40

ACTIVITIES

Choose from the following activities and crafts to help connect Bible learning to life.

Birthday Party for Jesus

Buy or make a birthday cake or cupcakes (or whatever treat works best for you) for Jesus. Do all the things you might typically do for a birthday party, singing, decorating, making cards, and so forth, but all focused on celebrating Jesus. Include buying baby gifts to donate to your local homeless shelter or crisis pregnancy center.



Yarn Cross

Show children how to tape a strand of yarn to a 1 x 4-inch piece of poster board and then wrap the yarn around it. Tape the end in place. Repeat with a 1 x 3-inch piece. Make a cross with the two pieces, wrapping yarn in an X pattern around the pieces to hold them together. Say, **Jesus' birth and the cross belong together. Jesus was born in a stable. Simeon told how he waited to see Jesus, who came to earth so that one day He could die on the cross and rise again to save us.**



Offerings

Make an offering container from a disposable plastic container with a lid. Decorate with stickers. Cut a hole in the top. Put money in it for church or Sunday School to thank Jesus for His love and forgiveness. Say, **At Christmas, God gave us the gift of His Son, Jesus, to save us. Mary and Joseph brought an offering to the temple to thank God for the gift of Jesus. We give God our offerings too.**



Play-Dough Fun

Set out play dough and nativity figures. Encourage the children to use figures as models to make play-dough nativity figures or to make roads and stables for the figures. Ask children to retell the Bible story, using the nativity figures and the play-dough figures and objects that they have created.

