

Building the ByziClassroom

Bringing Byzikids Magazine to life in your Sunday School or Homeschool Co Op Program



Meeting Guide for December 2024

This month's theme is Gifts!

Welcome to the ByziClassroom! The basic structure for your meeting should be pray, learn and then play; you'll find a detailed guide on the back of this page. Utilize this guide to create a meeting customized to your group's ages and time constraints. The page numbers referenced throughout the guide coordinate with the December issue of Byzikids Magazine, which you receive early access to. As always, reach out to us with any questions! We're happy to help with the material itself or ideas for how to build up your group.

This month's issue of Byzikids focuses on gifts...and who doesn't have gifts on their mind this time of year?! With magazines in the mail and ads on TV and everything in between, we are bombarded with consumerism. Ultimately, the ByziClassroom's goal is to point our children and ourselves back to the ultimate gift, Christ, during this busy season.

1

PRAY

Open your meeting with prayer, then read the Gospel for the upcoming Sunday.

2

LEARN

Read about the Song of the Prophet Isaiah on pages 6 & 7.

3

PLAY

Make your own Christmas gifts for others on page 10.



Sensory Play

Build your nativity scene on page 9.

History Lesson



Learn about the wealthy woman's gift on page 5.

Sing



Sing about Giving Gifts on page 18.

The above resources plus the coloring page & crossword provide additional material for your meeting.

Suggested Timeline

This plan creates a 2 hour meeting

10 minutes... opening prayer as a group- pray the appropriate hour for your meeting or use our prayer book as a guide (provided separately)

(If you have very young children in your group, this is the best time for them to break out & work on their sensory play, listen to story books & sing together. Older children can participate in educational time. Everyone regroups for snack!)

10 minutes... read the Gospel for the upcoming Sunday & complete the corresponding puzzle from page 12 or 13 together.

10 minutes...Present the icon lesson from page 3, be sure to print copies of the icon for each child to see as you instruct.

10 minutes... Prepare for the Nativity services and study your scriptures on pages 6 & 7..

20 minutes...Snack time (see below)

25 minutes...Use the instructions on page 10 to make a salt dough gift for the children to give away.

25 minutes...Use the instructions on page 10 to make a memorial ornament of their favorite gifts and memories from the 2024 year.

10 minutes...Closing prayer

Keep in touch and be sure to share your photos for future issues of Byzikids Magazine! Email us at jabyad@gmail.com or byzimom@gmail.com

SNACK TIME!

A simple and allergen friendly snack this month is to make a Christmas tree out of fruits and veggies! You can add cheese cut into star shapes for a tree topper and pretzel sticks as a trunk. Dips such as hummus or ranch dressing in portion cups makes for easy serving for the children.

Expand your meeting

Get everyone moving!

St. Lucy's Feast Day is December 13th. She lived in Italy about 300 years after Christ and was martyred for her faith. One story tells that she wore a wreath of candles on her head to keep her hands free to carry a basket of bread to Christians who were in prison. The candles served to light her way as she navigated the bumpy roads of her home town in the middle of the night.



In her memory, we can have a St. Lucy's Day parade! All the children can dress in white robes (or dad's undershirts!).

Girls can wear a candle wreath on their heads made from felt or construction paper and a red sash around their waist. Boys can make a "star boy" hat from a paper cone. Then, take to the aisles of your social hall or the streets of your neighborhood, sharing songs and sweet rolls with all who you encounter!

