

Give a Birthday Party for Jesus

Hold a children's birthday party for Jesus, and give presents to a local pregnancy care center (PCC). This is a good opportunity to impress on them the sanctity of human life and the necessity of giving practical support in order to help mothers and babies.

A month in advance:

- Obtain a *list of needed supplies* from the local PCC.
- Send out *invitations* to the party. Using pink and blue paper, cut an eight-inch square in half diagonally. Fold each triangle into a diaper. On the inside, print the party information (What: A Birthday Party for Jesus; When, Where, and contact information). Insert a copy of the list of needed supplies from the PCC. Refold the diapers and secure them with a pin or sticker.
- If your local PCC conducts *Baby Bottle Boomerang campaigns*, obtain baby bottles from the center and distribute them to the children. Explain that they can fill them up with loose change from around their home – with their parents' permission – and that money collected will go to the center to help babies. (Life Matters Worldwide also has baby bottles, if your church would like to raise funds for LMW.)
- Ask your pastor for an opportunity to present the fundraiser to the congregation. Hand out baby bottles to others who wish to participate.

Day of the party:

- *Decorate for a child's birthday party* – with balloons (enough for each child to take one home), streamers, a "Happy Birthday, Jesus!" banner. As they come in, arrange the gifts and baby bottles in a manger or baby crib.
- *Games* – Play **Feed the Baby**. Draw a large baby on a piece of poster board. Cut out and laminate a baby bottle for each child. Print the child's name on it and portions of Psalm 139:14-16. Play the game as you would *Pin the Tale on the Donkey*, but instead use the bottles to feed the baby. Children can take home their bottle for use as a bookmark.
- *Bible story* - Tell the story **Moses Had a Right to Live** from Exodus 2. As you tell the story, begin with the father seeing his child for the first time. "**This baby has a right to live,**" his father Amram says. When his mother Jochebed makes the basket and carefully puts it in the river she says, "**This baby has a right to live.**" When Moses' sister Miriam watches to see what happens to him she says, "**This baby has a right to live.**" When the princess picks the child out of the river she says, "**This baby has a right to live.**" Conclude the story by saying, "Just as Moses had a right to live, **every baby has . . .**" If you hesitate the children will say with you, "**a right to live.**"
- *Presents* – If a PCC director or volunteer is available to attend the party, the children can present their gifts to her. You may want to invite her to say a few words about the center.