

Deck the Halls: Countdown to Christmas



First, watch
this week's
video!

Christmas:
Celebrating
Jesus, God's
greatest gift

Memory Verse

"A child will be
born to us. A son
will be given to us."
Isaiah 9:6, NIV

Bible Story

Shepherds
and Angels
Luke 2:8-20

Bottom Line

God's love is
for everyone.

Use this guide to help your family
learn why we celebrate Christmas.

Activity

Four Christmas Surprises

What You Need:

Four Christmas items (for example: bow, Christmas lights, Christmas cookie, tinsel, ornament, figure from a nativity scene), and four paper bags

What You Do:

Place each item in a separate bag. Then invite your child to play a game.

Tell your child that they can reach inside each bag and try to guess what Christmas item is inside.

Allow your child three guesses per bag. When they guess correctly, reveal what's inside.

When you're finished, say, "You were excited when you guessed correctly! In our story today, we heard about how excited the shepherds were to hear about Jesus' birth."

Talk About the Bible Story

What news did the angel tell the shepherds? (*That Jesus had been born*)

What did the shepherds do after the angels left? (*They went to Bethlehem to see Jesus.*)

What did the shepherds do after they had seen Jesus? (*They went to tell everyone about Jesus' birth.*)

Were there certain people the shepherds didn't tell? (*No; they told everyone.*)

How can we be like the shepherds? (*We can tell everyone about Jesus' birth too!*)

Parent: Talk about a time when you shared God's love with a friend or family member who didn't know about Jesus. Were you nervous? How did they receive the news? How did God help you share the good news?



Prayer

Use this prayer as a guide, either after talking about the Bible story or sometime before bed tonight:

"Dear God, thank You for sending Your Son, Jesus, to be our Savior. You loved us so much that You sent Your only Son so that we could have a relationship with You that will last forever. Thank You for giving us such an amazing reason to celebrate! Please help us share Your love with our friends and family who we'll get to see during this Christmas season. We love You. Amen."

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Christmas: Celebrating Jesus, God's greatest gift

Memory Verse

"A child will be born to us. A son will be given to us. He will rule over us. And he will be called Wonderful Adviser and Mighty God. He will also be called Father Who Lives Forever and Prince Who Brings Peace."
Isaiah 9:6, NIV

Bible Story

Shepherds
and Angels
Luke 2:8-20

Key Question

How can you share
God's love this
Christmas?

Activity

Christmas Questionnaire

What You Need:

No supplies needed

What You Do:

Invite your child to do an activity. Explain to your child that they'll get to interview you. Give them the list of questions below and have them ask you each one.

- How would you use \$100 to help someone know that God loves them?
- If you only had 10 minutes to share God's love with someone this Christmas, what would you do?
- How would you use a phone to share God's love with someone?
- Who do you think needs to hear about God's love the most?
- What is something anyone can do to show God's love at Christmas?
- What's one reason we should show God's love to others at Christmas?
- Where will you be today that you can share God's love?

When you're finished, ask your child if they'd like to share their own answers for any of the questions they just read.

Talk About the Bible Story

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What did the shepherds do after the angels left? (*They went to Bethlehem to see Jesus.*)

What did the shepherds do after they had seen Jesus? (*They went to tell everyone about Jesus' birth.*)

Why is it important to share God's love with others?

What keeps us from sharing God's love with others?

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Prayer

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