

# Christmas: Celebrating Jesus, God's greatest gift

Read: Isaiah 9:6



DAY  
1

## Promises, Promises

Have you ever made a promise to a friend? Did you keep that promise? Make a list of all the promises you've made that you can remember. God's list would be really really long because there are thousands of promises in the Bible. Can you imagine making that many promises and keeping them? When God makes a promise to us, we can have hope.

**Know we can have hope because God keeps all His promises.**



DAY  
2

## Rainbow Promise

One promise we learn is that God gave Noah a huge promise at the end of that story in the form of a rainbow. God promised He would never flood the earth again. Gather some rainbow-colored cereal, like Fruit Loops®, a paper plate, and some glue. Separate the cereal pieces into the different colors of the rainbow and glue them onto the paper plate in order. Place this somewhere to remind you that God keeps His promises.

**Remember that God always keeps His promises.**



We can have hope because  
God keeps His promises.



DAY  
3

## My Christmas List

Ask an adult to help you find a box, some crayons and some scrap pieces of paper. On the pieces of paper, write all the things that you are hoping for this Christmas. Once you have finished, place them inside the box and decorate it like a gift. Share the things you are hoping for with your family at dinner tonight. Did you know that the best gift we could have ever been given did not come in a box? He was a baby and He was sent to be our hope and our Savior.

*Dear God,  
Thank you for your promises. Thank you for the promise of hope and a Savior. Thank you for giving us Jesus. Help us to remember that He is the best gift of all. Amen.*



DAY  
4

## A Savior

Ask an adult to help you look up Isaiah 9:6 and highlight it. Read it out loud. God promised to send a Savior that would bring hope to the world many years before it happened. And that is not the only promise we have been given. All throughout the Bible, God's Story, we find promises from Him. He'll always be with you. God promised there will be a day when there will be no more sadness or hurting. Write Isaiah 9:6 on your hand or bathroom mirror as a reminder of God's promises.

**Ask God to help you remember His promises.**





**“Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you.  
He is the Messiah, the Lord.” Luke 2:11, NIV**

# Christmas: Celebrating Jesus, God's greatest gift



DAY 1

## Read Isaiah 9:6

It's the Christmas season! Only the most anticipated, most celebrated, most awesome month of the year! And while the presents and lights and decorations are nice; you know what this holiday is really all about? Christmas is about celebrating Jesus, God's greatest gift.

Long before Jesus was born in Bethlehem, God made a promise. You read it in today's verse. About seven hundred years before Jesus' birth, Isaiah (a prophet who spoke on behalf of God) told us that a child would be born, that He would be a mighty God, Everlasting Father and Prince of Peace.

Now, thousands of years *after* God kept that promise, we celebrate Jesus' birth. It's a huge reminder to us that no matter what happens, God is completely trustworthy. **We can have hope because God keeps His promises.**

Think about the last promise you made. Did you keep it? Why or why not? Spend some time thanking God for keeping His promises and ask Him to help you be a promise keeper too.

We can have hope because  
God keeps His promises.

DAY 2

## Read Joshua 21:45

When you hear the word "promise" what do you think about? A promise is to follow through with what you say you will or will not do.

### Finish the sentences below:

I promise I will not say \_\_\_\_\_  
to my parent. I promise I will put away my  
\_\_\_\_\_ for a whole week. I promise  
I will not leave my \_\_\_\_\_ in the  
middle of my bedroom floor. What's easier?  
To make a promise or to keep a promise?  
\_\_\_\_\_

It's so much easier to make a promise than to actually follow through and keep that promise. Lucky for us, God never messes this up.

As today's verse reminds us, God kept all the promises He made to His people, the Israelites. Even when the Israelites turned their back on God and tried over and over again to do their own thing. Still, God kept His promise and sent His Son, Jesus. That's why we can have hope. Not just at Christmas but every single day. God can be trusted because God keeps His promises.



DAY 3

### Read Ezekiel 12:28

When was the last time someone made a promise to you and that promise was broken? Can you think of an example? Sooner or later, everyone breaks a promise because everyone, including you, is imperfect. Everyone, including you, makes mistakes.

But there is good news. God is not like us. He is completely perfect. There is no wrong or bad or imperfect part of Him. He never messes up, says something He doesn't mean, or "forgets." When God makes a promise, you can trust that it's as good as done. Because God said He would send His one and only Son and because He did, you can trust God, always.

Below is a secret message! Cross out all the letters in the alphabet in order starting with the "A" at the beginning and ending with "Z". Then write the remaining letters in the blanks below in order to reveal the key truth from today's verse.

**A E B V C E D R E Y F T G H H I I  
N J G K I L S M A N Y O W P I Q L  
R L S C T O U M V E W T X R Y U Z E .**

“ \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_.”

Answer: Everything I say will come true.

DAY 4

### Read Jeremiah 23:5

Today, create some salt dough ornaments to hang on your Christmas tree to remind you of God's promises:

#### Salt Dough Recipe

- Ingredients:
- 4 cups all-purpose flour
- 1 cup table salt
- 1 ½ cups warm water
- Cookie cutters
- A toothpick
- Paint or paint markers for decoration
- Ribbon for hanging

Preheat the oven to 300° Fahrenheit. Stir together the flour and salt. Slowly add the water, stirring constantly. Knead the dough until soft, about five minutes. Place the dough between two large pieces of parchment paper. Roll out until 1/8 inch thick.

Use the cookie cutters to cut out shapes. Use the toothpick to write the words "HOPE," "LOVE," "JOY" and "PEACE" on four separate ornaments. Poke a hole in the top of every ornament for hanging. Transfer the parchment paper to a baking sheet. Bake for one hour.

Once cooled, decorate the "HOPE" ornament and other blank ornaments with paint or paint markers. Thread ribbon through the top and hang on the tree. Save the "LOVE," "JOY" and "PEACE" ornaments to decorate in the weeks to come.

# Journal

Spend some time thinking about the question below and journal your thoughts or share them with a parent.



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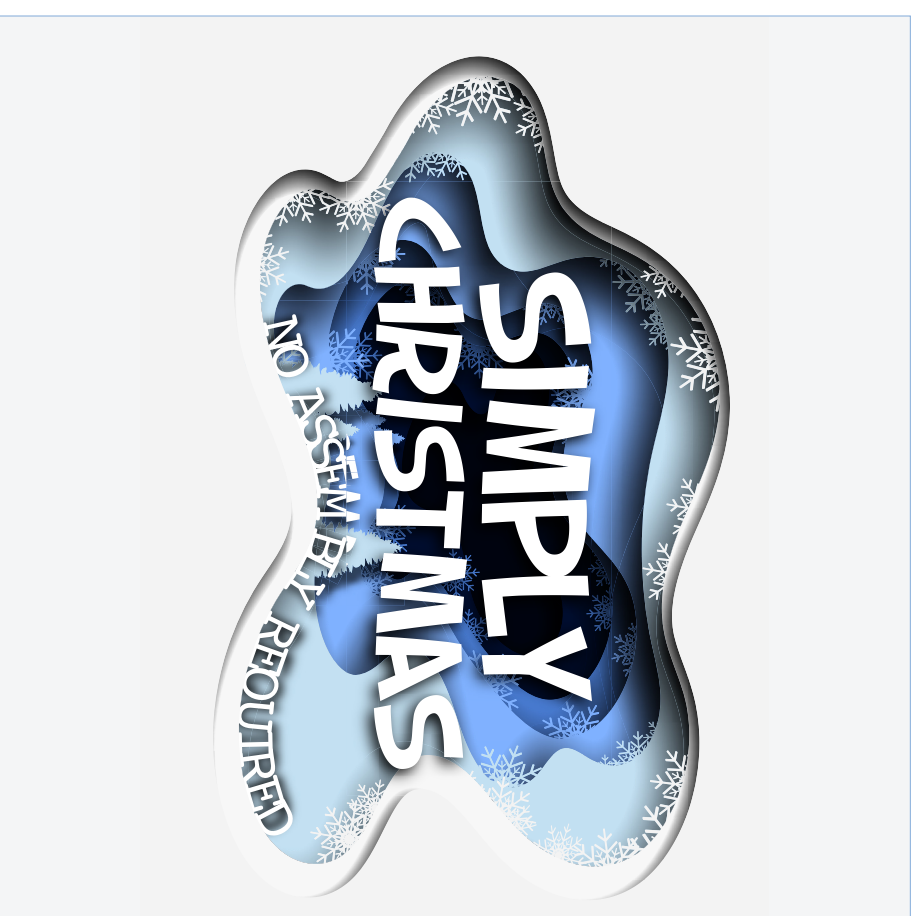
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4th-5th

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Week 1



## Day 1

Go to [Studio252.tv](http://Studio252.tv) and watch this week's episode of The So & So Show.

➔ Click on Fun2Watch! then The So & So Show.

Even if you already saw it at church, feel free to check it out again!

### SO & SO TOP 3

After watching, write one thing that:

1. You liked: \_\_\_\_\_

2. You learned: \_\_\_\_\_

3. You'd like to know: \_\_\_\_\_



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## Day 2

### Read Isaiah 9:6

As you read Isaiah 9:6, underline every word that is referring to Jesus (some are titles; some are simple pronouns). Then circle the description of Jesus that gives you the most hope.

How amazing is it that the prophet Isaiah foretold Jesus' birth about 700 YEARS before He was born? Isaiah and other prophets even foretold incredible details of Jesus' birth that unfolded exactly as they said they would. Most importantly, Jesus brought the peace and hope that the prophets said He would!

## Day 3

**There are many different ways we can pray to God, including using His words, and the words He inspired in others.**

Today, use the words of Isaiah 9:6 to pray a prayer of thankfulness to God for keeping His promise.

*Dear God, thank You for sending a child to be born to us . . . for giving Your only Son to us. We are thankful He leads us! He is our Wonderful Adviser and Mighty God. He is also our Father Who Lives Forever, and the Prince Who Brings Peace. We can have hope because You kept your promise to send Jesus! In His Name, I pray, amen.*

P.S. Did you realize you were just a part of fulfilled prophecy? Isaiah said, 'He will be called Wonderful Adviser and Mighty God. He will also be called Father Who Lives Forever and Prince Who Brings Peace.' That's what you just did!

## Day 4

**Grab a cup of hot chocolate and a friend or parent and take a break from the craziness that the holiday season often brings.**

As you enjoy your treat, share with each other what you're hoping for in the coming weeks and months. It could be something silly or fun, or it could be something serious and important.

Then read the words of Isaiah 9:6 together, and share with each other how it makes you feel to know that God keeps His promises. Before you jump back into the busyness of the day, say a quick prayer of thankfulness to God for keeping His promises. **We can have hope because God keeps His promise.**

## Day 5

**Does your family have a tradition of sending Christmas cards to others?**

One of the best parts of sending Christmas greetings is the chance to remind others of the hope of this season.

If your family sends cards, ask if you can somehow include the words of Isaiah 9:6 in your card this year. If they don't, or if they've already sent the cards, then send a few Christmas greetings to your friends by text, email, or mail. You can send a photo, a Christmas joke, or just write Merry Christmas in fun fonts. But before signing off, share the words of Isaiah 9:6, and share with your friends what this promise fulfilled means to you.

It could be something like, "*Merry Christmas! I hope you're having a great holiday season! I am feeling full of hope because Christmas means that God keeps His promises. In Isaiah 9:6, God promised, through the prophet Isaiah, that He would send a Savior, and He did! Merry Christmas!*"

Make your own messages personal and in your own words. After you've sent them, you can smile knowing you've spread the message of hope that Jesus, God's greatest gift, brings!

