

Christmas: Celebrating Jesus, God's greatest gift

Read: Philippians 4:7

WEEK
4
1ST

DAY
1

Christmas Chaos

At Christmas time, most of us have family or friends visit or we go and visit someone to celebrate together. For some people, the Christmas season can be loud and busy, but God sent Jesus to bring peace. Having peace means being still and quiet or being calm. Now that Christmas is over. The gifts are all opened. The tree is down and company has gone home. Take a few minutes, flip this paper over and quietly color in the peace symbol and thank God for sending Jesus to bring us peace.

Thank God for sending Jesus to bring us peace.

DAY
2

The Gift of Peace

Did you know that God gives His peace to everyone? Ask an adult to help you look up Philippians 4:7 and highlight it. This verse tells us that because we belong to God, He will give us peace that watches over our hearts and minds. That means that God can bring a quiet and calmness to us when we are scared, when we are angry or even frustrated. Let's ask Him to help us remember that today and always.

Dear God, Thank You for giving us so much to celebrate during this season. Thank You for bringing us joy and peace. Help us to remember that You will give us peace in the good times and in the bad. We love You, amen.

DAY
3

Silent Night

Take some time and just look up at the sky with your family knowing that God gives us peace. It's almost magical because it's so quiet and still. God's peace can feel a lot like that. It is just one of the ways He shows us His peace.

Look for all the ways God gives us His peace.

DAY
4

Have a "Peace"

All month long, we have been celebrating the birth of Jesus. Let's see how much you can remember by filling in the blanks below.

We can have H___PE because God keeps His promise.

We can have J___Y because God has a plan for you.

God LO___ED us so much that He gave us a SA___IOR.

God's PEA___E is for everyone.

And guess what? This is all such great news and we don't have to stop celebrating because God wants us to share His hope, His joy, and His peace with everyone! So, this week ask your mom for several "pieces" of candy or gum and share it with someone while you also share the good news!

Know that we have so much to celebrate!

God's peace is for everyone.

PARENT CUE



Christmas: Celebrating Jesus, God's greatest gift



WEEK
4
2ND-3RD



DAY 1

Read Luke 2:8-12

Imagine a group of smelly shepherds, out in a field, watching over their sheep. Some may have been asleep. Some may have been counting sheep in an attempt to go to sleep. But sleep wasn't on the agenda this special night. Because God was about to send an angel to make a very big announcement.

"Do not be afraid," the angel said. "I bring you good news for all people . . . a Savior has been born to you." That "you" included those shepherds. "You" included all the people in the sleepy town of Bethlehem. "You" includes, well, you.

God sent Jesus as a gift for every one of us. Jesus brought peace. He made a way for us to have a relationship with God forever!

Find an adult and ask him or her following questions:

1. When do you first remember hearing the Christmas story about Jesus? Who told you?
2. Why do you think God sent an angel to tell a bunch of everyday shepherds about Jesus' birth instead of someone else with more power or influence?
3. If Jesus had been born today (in 2020), who do you think the angel would have told first?



DAY 2

Read Luke 2:16-20

What did the shepherds do as soon as they heard about Jesus' birth? They left that field and headed straight to see for themselves! And what did they find? Everything the angel said was true. They saw Jesus lying in the manger. And they knew that He was the one they'd been waiting for. It was such good news that they immediately started telling everyone about it.

If Jesus had been born today with all the technology available to us, there would be so many ways to tell people all about it. In the space below, write out all the ways you could share the good news about Jesus (we've listed a few ideas to help you get started):

Send someone a text message. Type up an email to send to all your friends and family

Ask God to help you tell others the good news about Jesus, just like the shepherds did on that first Christmas. Remember, God's peace is for everyone and He wants us to share this good news with the people around us.



PARENT CUE

DAY 3

Read John 14:27

When you hear the word “peace” what do you think about? Write down your definition of peace below:

Some would say that peace is the absence of arguments or disagreements. Others would say that peace means no war or fighting. Others define peace as a feeling of calm or quiet.

Jesus came to make things right between us and God. He came to make a way for us to be a part of God’s family. That’s why we celebrate Christmas! Because God sent His only Son so that we could have peace forever.

Have you ever watched a baby sleeping? There is something so calm and peaceful about a sleeping baby. Head back over to your nativity and look at the baby Jesus figure sleeping away. Spend some time thanking God for sending His only Son to bring you peace forever.

DAY 4

Read John 16:33

Do you ever wonder why you seem to fight with your siblings so much? Chances are you’ve been spending a lot of time with your brothers or sisters lately. And the more time you spend with each other, the more opportunities you have to get on each other’s nerves.

But peace is possible, even when you’re fighting with your brother. Why? Because of Jesus. Jesus reminds us that even though we will have trouble in this world (like those fights with your sister) it’s okay, because He is bigger and stronger than any of the yucky stuff we might face.

Grab your “PEACE” ornament from week one. Decorate the front with paint and run some ribbon through the top. Instead of packing this ornament away with the rest of your decorations, hang this one up in your room all year. Every time you face trouble (like a fight with your brother or a super bad day), remember the PEACE, deep down that you have because of your relationship with Jesus. Ask God to help you tell others about Jesus too because God’s peace is for everyone.

God’s peace is for everyone.

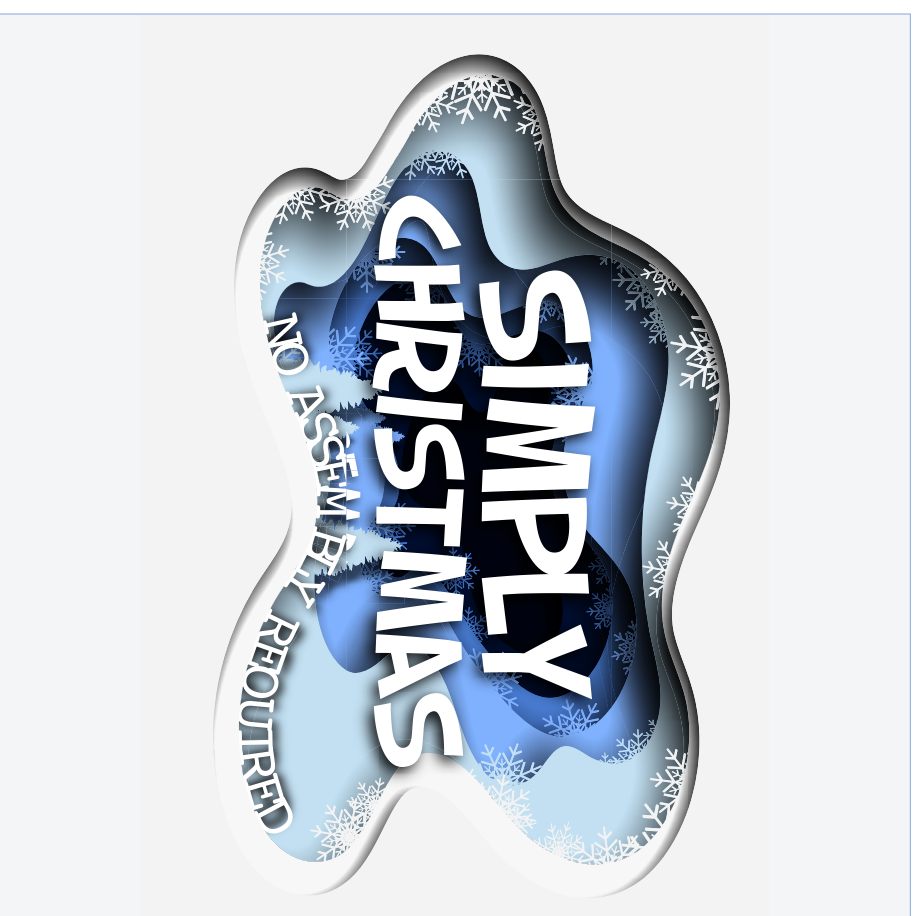
Journal

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



4th-5th

Week 4



Day 1

Go to 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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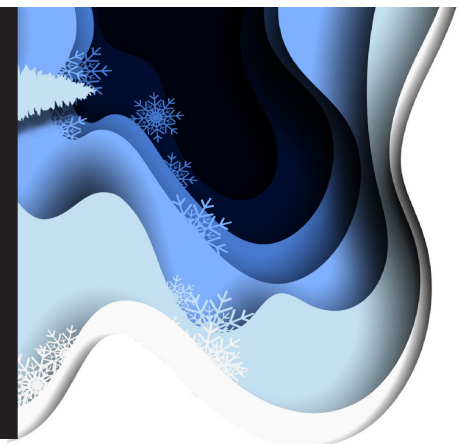
Day 2

Read Luke 2:8-20

After you read Luke 2:8-20, grab a sheet of paper and draw a comic-style illustration of the events that happened that night. Stick figure angels and shepherds are great! If you happen to have glue and cotton balls, you can even make the sheep 3-D. (And as an extra bonus, if you have pipe cleaners, you can make an angel halo and shepherd's crook with those!)

Be sure and draw a speech bubble above the angels and write the words to the song they sang to the shepherds that night: *"May glory be given to God in the highest heaven! And may peace be given to those he is pleased with on earth!"*

Underline the word PEACE. How amazing that **God's peace is for everyone!**



Day 4

Some churches have a tradition of saying, "Peace be with you."

And the other person responds, "And also with you." It's called "passing the peace."

You don't have to be at church to "pass the peace" though, and you don't have to state it so formally either (although, you certainly can). You can share God's peace by reminding others that Jesus came so we can have peace. You can share peace by texting a friend an encouraging note. You can pass the peace to your family, your friends, your teammates, with simple words, your favorite Bible verse, or letting them know you're praying for them to have peace.

Today, choose a friend or family member that you know needs to feel God's peace. Then pick a fun way to remind them that **God's peace is for everyone**—even them.



Day 3

Draw a circle on a sheet of paper big enough to fit your immediate family member's names.

Write their names inside it. Then just outside the circle, draw a bigger circle. In this section, write the names of your closest friends, as well as the names of your grandparents, aunts/uncles, cousins, etc. Then draw another circle, and in this section write the names of your classmates, teammates, coaches, teachers, etc. Then finally draw one more circle and write the names (or jobs) of the community helpers you know of (grocery store cashier, crossing guard, police officers, government employees, etc.).

Now take a minute to pray for each of those people, that they can experience God's peace. For those in your innermost circle, pray for them by name. Pray for any difficult situations they might be going through, that they would feel God's peace despite their circumstances. For those in the outer circles, you can pray more in general terms (e.g., "God, please give your peace to all those who serve our communities.")

It may seem like a lot of people to pray for, but it's a great reminder that **God's peace is for everyone!**

Day 5

Use the letters of the word PEACE to fill out the rest of the acrostic with the things peace means to you. (It doesn't have to start with that letter; it can be a letter in the middle of the word too.)

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We all may experience peace a little different based on our life experience, but ultimately, peace means God is with us, and nothing in this world can take that away! There are lots of things in life that can make us feel worried and afraid. But the peace Jesus gives us will help us get through those tough times. And the peace He offers also makes us right with God—restoring our relationship so we can live with Him forever. What a reason to celebrate, even after Christmas is over!